# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Brama.

No. 2822

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1881.

PRICE
THRESPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

OCIETY of ARTS PRACTICAL EXAMINA-TION IN MUNIC.—Examiner, John MULLAM, Esq., LLD.—The STEEN EXAMINATION will be held in the SECOND WEEK in LANTIANY, 1892. Certificates are granted for Honours for ist Class and for and Class.—For full particulars apply to the Secretary. Bloisty's House, John-street, Adelphi, Landon, W.C.

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Rocisty Arrangements before Easter, 1882. Lecture Hour, 3 o'clock r.m.

CHRISTMAS LECTURES.

CHRISTMAS LECTURES.

ROBERT STAWELL RALL Eag., LLD. P.R.S., Andrews Professor of Astronomy in the University of Dublin, and Royal Astronomer of Astronomy in the University of Dublin, and Royal Astronomer of Astronomy in the University of Dublin, and Royal Astronomer of Astronomy in the University of Dublin, and Royal Astronomer of Astronomy in the University of Dublin, and Royal Astronomer of Sun, 1881. And 1882. The Sun, 1882. The

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#### LITERATURE

The Visions of England. By F. T. Palgrave. (Macmillan & Co.)

In this volume Mr. Palgrave has undertaken what every one will acknowledge to be an interesting but at the same time a difficult enterprise, the rendering of the whole history of England, by a succession of isolated but representative scenes, into lyrical verse. He has thus attempted to execute a task which the present Professor of Poetry at Oxford has recommended to English bards, and which more than one poet of the past has more or less dimly purposed. What may be called the preliminary arrangements of his attempt Mr. Palgrave has obviously made with a great deal of care, and with such judgment as ought to give him fair prospect of success. He has allowed himself a wide variety of metre, he has studied to place himself at the most modern and picturesque points of view, and he has selected his subjects, almost without exception, very well indeed. Some poems at the end of the book, which are mainly personal in character, seem rather out of place, but if Mr. Palgrave's "contents" were woven in tapestry they would make a very fair pictorial history of England.

So far so good. Unfortunately the proof of poetry is not very dissimilar to the proof of pudding; and the most admirable dispositions and apparatus, even the best and most approved materials, will not of themselves determine the character of either. Let us take Mr. Palgrave's very first stanza:

England, fair England! Empress isle of isles! —Round whom the loving-envious ocean plays, Girdling thy feet with silver and with smiles, Whilst all the nations crowd thy liberal bays; On rushing wheel and heart of flame they come Or glide and glance like white-wing'd doves that know

And seek their proper home:—
England! not England yet! but fair as now,
When first the chalky strand was stirr'd by Roman

This stanza has evidently been written with a great deal of pains, yet its effect is unsatisfactory, and when the critical reader begins to take it to pieces he soon discovers plenty of reasons for his want of satisfaction. Why "loving-envious"? If it be in the sense that the ocean would like to be the land, this is surely but a fantastic conceit to put in the forefront of a book on so great a subject. "Liberal bays" is scarcely an appropriate phrase. "Liberal" is that which gives, not which takes, and the ba as a bay, is wholly receptive. "On rushing wheel and heart of flame" refers to steamers apparently, and in that sense "on heart of flame" does not seem very happy; you come on a wheel, but you do not come on a heart. But if the steamers be steamers, what have they got to do with "England not England yet"? and what a curious notion it is to make the bulk of a stanza describing England from Cæsar to Egbert descriptive of England in Victorian times! Now all this is not mere cavilling, whatever it may seem to people who are not accustomed to analyze literary effect. The general impression of elaborate and not wholly successful labour is felt in this first stanza, and it is only later that it is resolved consciously into these several objections. But the objections are there at first.

We have taken the trouble to perform the analysis because the effect produced by the greater part of Mr. Palgrave's book is exactly this of indefinite ill-success, which becomes definite and intelligible enough with a moment's thought. There is no doubt that, as has been sufficiently acknowledged already, he has taken great pains with his details; but he has not got them to go together. However, the stanza just given is one of his least happy; here is one of his happiest:-

Each from its little croft the homesteads peep, Green apple-garths around, and hedgeless meads, Smooth-shaven lawns of ever-shifting sheep, Wolds where his dappled crew the swineherd feeds :-

Pale gold round pure pale foreheads, and their

eyes
More dewy blue than speedwell by the brook
When Spring's fresh current flies,
The free fair maids come barefoot to the fount, Or poppy-crown'd with fire, the car of harvest mount.

Even here there are some infelicities of expression. "Lawns of sheep" is not a fortunate phrase, especially as "smooth-shaven" applies to both; and while the luckless eye and mind are wandering for a nominative case between the fifth and eighth lines, they really have some excuse for wondering whether Mr. Palgrave is describing the pale golden locks and pure pale foreheads of some extinct breed of pig. Similar faults are more or less frequent throughout the whole book, and prevent it from attaining the poetical level to which its author aspires. He is, however, as may be supposed, happier in some places than in others. poem, descriptive of the Land's End and its ancient Phoenician visitors, is better than the Prelude. 'The Dream of Maxen Wledig,' though it challenges perilous comparison with Mr. Tennyson's recent historical poems in the same metre, is in parts very good. It is, indeed, one of the best things in the book, and some of it will bear quoting :-

And now from the topmost top o'er forest and plain he looks forth.

Tilth and pasture and rivers that coil and flash to the north:

And he journey'd and came to the mouth of the widest, the bridgeless and free,

And the City of Towers, between the two horns it push'd to the sea; And a Castle of rainbow colours o'er all tower'd into

the sky,
And a ship like a swan lay tossing and chafing and straining to fly; And the fairest island of islands before him across

the blue neck Rose like a silver wall, and Maxen leapt on the And as a dream in a dream the galley ran o'er the foam.

And his feet on the island were light with delight; and he knew it was Home

'Garianonum' (Burgh Castle) relapses into the over-elaborate style—"Indurate flint and brick in ruddy tiers," "Undergnaw'd by years," "The moon's dead face, intolerable white, volcano-starr'd," and so forth. The next few poems are of no particular note, save 'A Danish Barrow,' which is fair. 'Hastings' is one of the most ambitious and least successful of all. Here is a stanza :-

And as when two lightning-clouds tilt, between

them an arrowy sleet
Hisses and darts; till the challenging thunders are
heard, and they meet;
Across fly javelins and serpents of flame: green
earth and blue sky

Mix'd in the dim tornado :- so now the battle goes high.

Shearing through helmet and limb Glaive-steel and battle-axe grim:

As the flash of the reaper in summer's high wheat, King Harold cleaves horseman and horse at his feet. It is very odd how snatches of 'Brave Lord Willoughby' and the 'Ballad of Agincourt' occur to the mind while one reads this "terrific stanza," as Thomas Ingoldsby might have justly called it. 'Le Château Gaillard' has some merit, but the first two lines of its last stanza exhibit a want of sense of proportion which is one of Mr. Palgrave's chief faults. They are pretty, but out of drawing :-

While pimpernel beneath the heaven's clear dome Stars forth its coral bloom.

'A Ballad of Evesham' shows Mr. Palgrave's powers of attaining ballad simplicity and picturesqueness :-

And round him in the narrow combe His white-cross comrades rally,
While ghastly gashings cloud the beck
And crimson all the valley,

And triple sword-thrusts meet his sword, And thrice the charge he foils, Though now in threefold flood the foe Round those devoted boils.

The last line is perhaps as unlucky a one as there is in the book.

We should probably weary the reader, and should far exceed our own limits, if we followed Mr. Palgrave minutely through all the sixty or seventy separate poems of his volume. It may be noted generally that he is happiest in the ana-pæstic hexameter, less successful in more elaborately concerted metres, and least of all in the simple ballad iambs and trochees. One ballad poem, however, on the saving of Prince Rupert by the devotion of his crew off Terceira, deserves to be mentioned as pathetic and effective, though marred by the general faults of the book. 'The Pilgrim and the Ploughman,' in so far as it deals with Langland, is very good, but is unjust to Chaucer. 'London Bridge' is a good serious poem, and the death of Sir Hugh Willoughby is not ineffective, though surely Mr. Palgrave has made the Arctic explorer a present of Sir Humphrey Gilbert's death words when he makes him say,

God is as close by sea as land. 'Sidney at Zutphen' is again better, the anapæst once more bringing luck to Mr. Palgrave. In the seventeenth century he becomes exceedingly controversial, supporting his opinions with elaborate arguments

in note and appendix. Of the later poems the best is probably 'Simplicity,' on Reynolds's little model Theophila Gwatkin. But though the interest of many of the subjects and the contagion of the accomplished author's enthusiasm for them frequently remedy the defects to some extent, the criticism made in the earlier part of this article applies more or less to the whole volume. Mr. Palgrave is a highly accomplished man; his 'Golden Treasury' is one of the most delightful books in the language, a book for which it is impossible to be too grateful to him. It is therefore with great reluctance that we speak of any writings of his in other words than those of praise. Yet much as we esteem Mr. Palgrave, the truth must be told: if a single word be required to describe his new work, it is "undigested."

Sport in the Crimea and Caucasus. By Clive Phillipps-Wolley, F.R.G.S., late British Vice-Consul at Kertch. (Bentley & Son.) This book is far from being, as might be feared from the title, a mere record of slaughter of game relieved by personal trivialities. There is a great deal more in the book than sport, and even the pages devoted to that subject are by no means without interest, containing as they do much that is curious about the habits of bird and beast, the traditions concerning them, and the means employed to circumvent them. The reader gains, too, a vivid idea of the density and inaccessibility of their forest haunts, and of the extraordinary beauty and wealth, both of plain and forest, lying almost entirely waste and undeveloped along the eastern shores of the Euxine. Like a true sportsman, the writer has a keen eve for natural beauty, and he has sufficient powers of description to depict the charms to be found in the life he led. Thus on a midwinter night's watch for game in the depths of a frozen forest he makes us realize the exquisite loveliness of the scene, with its intense silence broken by strange, unfamiliar sounds. The dénoûment was laughable though unsatisfactory. The long-watched-for deer came slowly crashing on through the brush-wood, when a sound, as of a sudden heavy fall, put them to flight just as they were coming within range. It turned out that a German of the party, alarmed at the approaching noise, had climbed up a tree, and slipped and fell at that inopportune moment.

The author's account of the people with whom he came in contact is the more worth reading in that he had the advantage, discreditably rare among Englishmen, of knowing the Russian language. Hospitality, as he cordially acknowledges, he met with everywhere: very rude and boisterous among the Cossacks, but genuine. His pictures of Russian officialism, of which he had some experience in his vice-consulate, show, in addition to the prevailing corruption, a curious incapacity for method and order.

The combination of the European and Oriental, which makes the Russian character so difficult for us to understand, also comes out strongly. He tells a characteristic story of his arrival at Salian, where there was no inn or shelter to be found. A custom-house official at once offered hospitality, which was gratefully accepted. Soon after a messenger arrived with another invitation, saying he "must not think of staying with that poor

devil of a custom-house officer." This invitation, which was of course declined, was delivered, much to the author's distress, in the "poor devil's" presence, who, however, not only did not resent it, but begged the traveller to accompany him in the evening to the great man's house, to bear witness that he was not to blame in the matter!

The cosmopolitan polish which sits so well on the Russian of the upper class has, as the author amusingly shows, a very incongruous effect upon the class below. Few, if any, of the Southern Russians, he says, have any love of sport as we understand it; it is with them at best an excuse for a picnic, which is half an orgy. They have, in fact, a proverb, originating of course in a condition of things unknown among ourselves, to the effect that "the chase is worse than slavery." Nor, he says, do they care for riding or out-door games, and a Russian schoolboy is the exact opposite in every respect of an English, though not very dif-ferent from a French one. The Russian peasants in the Caucasus seem to be bad colonists, and the condition of the country is more backward than it was before the Circassians were expelled, while life and property are, Mr. Phillipps-Wolley says, far more insecure than is usually supposed. The people with whom he is most favourably impressed are the Lesghians, and he draws a pleasant picture of their contented pastoral life among their grand mountains. They possess, at all events, two virtues of which their neighbours are devoid: they are a cleanly people and good sportsmen.

The Russian yemstchik and his troika are not, of course, new acquaintances, and in the better ordered parts of the empire are endurable elements of travel; but a troika journey on a Caucasian road must be the acme of discomfort, unless, indeed, we except the night's rest in the wayside posthouse. In short, travelling there is rough work, with the serious risk of fever, and of starvation besides if cut off, as the writer was, in the forest by suddenly flooded rivers; when, he says, it occurred to him that there was, after all, some force in the proverb above quoted.

Mr. Phillipps-Wolley seems to have many of the qualities that make a successful traveller—energy, endurance, and the faculty for conciliating goodwill; and the freshness of his tone and style is pleasant.

Errors in the Use of English. By the late Prof. W. B. Hodgson, LL.D. (Edinburgh, Douglas.)

THERE is a certain amount of difficulty in reviewing this work. It is most probable that Prof. Hodgson, had he lived to see it through the press, would have altered and improved it in more than one particular, and would have cut down the illustrative quotations, which in several instances are too numerous. The book is divided into four parts, headed respectively "Vocabulary," "Accidence," "Syntax," and "Rhetoric." The first part is too short, and in it, as indeed throughout the volume, the reader would be glad to have more of Prof. Hodgson's own criticisms and remarks, and fewer quotations. Thus for "Avocation" are given over sixty examples, occupying more than five pages of print.

With reference to the next question, the correctness or incorrectness of talented, Prof. Hodgson does not in so many words pro-nounce a decided opinion of his own, and he adduces authorities on both sides. Still, from his remark that "it were always well that, before employing talented, we should first consider whether clever would not suit our turn as well or better, e.g., in such phrases as 'a talented young artist,' 'a talented review,'" it is evident that he inclined to the side of those who look on such a word as formed in a manner wholly abnormal. But the word is much older than is generally believed. It was used by Archbishop Abbot, who died in 1633. He speaks of ambition as "a miserable and restless thing, when one talented but as a common person, yet by the favour of his prince hath gotten that interest, that in a sort the keys of all England hang at his girdle" (Rushworth Coll., p. 449). At any rate, talented should be used with reference to persons only. It is absurd to speak of a "talented review" or a "talented picture."

It is curious and startling to find how many even of our best writers fall into mistakes such as would be thought disgraceful in a schoolboy. Thus it appears to be no uncommon thing to find "lay" used for lie, or "overflown" for overflowed. Of an extremely common error in concord, termed by Dr. Abbott the "error of proximity," Prof. Hodgson supplies numerous instances from writers of every class. The part of the book which deals with blunders in collocation is most amusing. Many of the examples given are old friends, but many more are new. Such is the extract from a critique on 'Othello': "The Moor, seizing a bolster, full of rage and jealousy, smothers her." So also are the following: "Mr. Carlyle has taught us that silence is golden in thirty volumes"; "A clever magistrate would see whether he [a witness] was deliberately lying a great deal better than a stupid jury."

But in respect to blunders in collocation, as in some other cases, Prof. Hodgson has not gone into the essence of the matter, namely, that these blunders are excusable in speech, in which so much is done by intonation, accent, and gesture that the hearer is in little danger of making a mistake about the true meaning of that which he hears. In writing, on the other hand, there is no way of making any such distinctions clear to the reader, and it is therefore essential that care should be taken so to arrange the words and clauses as to ensure perfect freedom from misconstruction. It may be added that the common and hideous misuse of "and which" is duly gibbeted. In the chapter on rhetoric are given numerous examples of blunders of tautology, pleonasm, and confused metaphors.

logy, pleonasm, and confused metaphors.

Beyond all doubt Prof. Hodgson has attained his object, viz., "to set forth the merits of correctness in English composition by furnishing examples of the demerits of incorrectness—to bring home the abstract rule that 'a sentence must be lucid in order and logical in sequence.'" Mrs. Hodgson has done her task well. Naturally she felt reluctant to alter more than was absolutely necessary the manuscript as left prepared for the press by her husband. The book is singularly free from errors arising

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sud tole wh from carelessness in revision; almost the only one which we have noticed is on p. 58, where the well-known member for Finsbury appears as "Torrens McCullagh." As it is, the volume is welcome, and we can only express regret that Prof. Hodgson was not spared to expand and perfect the work which he had so well begun.

English Sonnets by Living Writers.—English Sonnets by Poets of the Past. Edited by Samuel Waddington. (Bell & Sons.)

WITHIN the last few years many critics have spoken upon the sonnet, Mr. Ashcroft Noble being perhaps the best equipped among them. Mr. Waddington's observations upon sonnet structure are intelligent. He writes a graceful sonnet himself. It would seem, how-ever, from his remarks that he has failed to realize that in the sonnet, as, indeed, in every other true metrical form, there is nothing arbitrary; nor does he appear to understand that in metre every movement is good or bad according to the degree in which it carries the emotion of which it is the voice. "Among the French poets," says he, "there exists a practice of beginning the sestet with a couplet, and Mr. Swinburne has adopted this form in his sonnet entitled 'In San Lorenzo'; - 'The Source of Fame,' by Sir Philip Sidney, follows the same arrangement, as also do some of Words-worth's sonnets." Mr. Waddington makes no inquiry as to the cause why this form of the sestet is commonly adopted in France and occasionally adopted here. Yet the cause is neither so obvious nor so recondite that a critic is justified in thus mentioning the fact and then passing on. In a good sonnet the arrangement of the rhymes in the sestet is always governed by the mental quality of the octave preceding it. Sometimes the octave requires that it should be followed by a sestet more than usually vigorous and emphatic, and in that case, as the couplet is the most emphatic of all forms, the French method of beginning the sestet with a couplet is obviously the best. This is the simple reason why Mr. Swinburne, whose quest, like that of many French poets, is generally emphasis, so commonly writes his sestet in this manner. Mr. Rossetti occasionally does so, but it is always when the emotion takes in the sestet a new and a culminating turn. We can best show what we mean by quoting Mr. Rossetti's sonnet 'Lovesight':-

When do I see thee most, beloved one?
When in the light the spirits of mine eyes
Before thy face, their altar, solemnize
The worship of that Love through thee made known?
Or when in the dusk hours (we two alone),
Close-kissed and eloquent of still replies,
Thy twilight-hidden glimmering visage lies,
And my soul only sees thy soul its own?
O love, my love! if I no more should see

O love, my love! if I no more should see
Thyself, nor on the earth the shadow of thee,
Nor image of thine eyes in any spring,—
How then should sound upon Life's darkening slope
The ground-whirl of the perished leaves of Hope,
The wind of Death's imperishable wing?

Here the new and terrible thought which after the octave breaks upon the poet as a sudden surprise—the thought of the intolerable consequences of the death of her whom he loves—requires for its expression such an accession of emphasis as the couplet alone can give. But from the very

fact that there is no method so emphatic of knitting together six lines as the one here adopted, it follows that there are times when this form of sestet would be decidedly bad.

Mr. Waddington in his preface speaks of the sonnet as a form "admirably adapted as a tablet on which to inscribe the divine pensées, the momentary flashes of light, the clear vision and deeper insight into the sacred mysteries of the infinite world around him, that visit unbidden the inspired mind of the poet and prophet." This is true, no doubt, and it means simply that for occasional poetry the sonnet is a most convenient form, though, as we said on a former occasion, the Italian peasantry have in their rispetti and stornelli forms, perhaps, more convenient still. The "momentary flashes of light" come from many occasional sources—from a passage in the poet's life-experience, from a public incident, a national triumph or disaster, from the ever-varying aspects of Nature, according to the mood in which the poet confronts her. And often, no doubt, the subject of a sonnet is suggested by some passage which the poet has been reading. And herein lies a danger-the danger of the poet's work lapsing into mere sonnet manufacture. A sample of such a sonnet may be seen on p. 95 of 'Sonnets by Living Writers ':-

Already evening! In the duskiest nook
Of yon dusk corner, under the Death's-head,
Between the alembics, thrust this legended,
And iron-bound, and melancholy book,
For I will read no longer. The loud brook
Shelves his sharp light up shallow banks thin-

spread;
The slumbrous west grows slowly red, and red:
Up from the ripen'd corn her silver hook
The moon is lifting: and deliciously
Along the warm blue hills the day declines:
The first star brightens while she waits for me,

The first star brightens while she waits for me,
And round her swelling heart the zone grows
tight:

Musing, half-sad, in her soft hair she twines
The white rose, whispering "He will come tonight!"

There is something forced and artificial in thus bringing into close juxtaposition the dusky nook of the library, the "melancholy book," the "loud brook," and especially our old friend the "Death's-head between the alembics," and it is evident the sonnet was inspired, not by the situation it is supposed to depict, but by a passage in some book. Consequently the critic, whom sad and long experience of such doings makes only too watchful, runs his eye down the rhymes to discover which of the rhyme-words carries the central thought or picture of the sonnet and gives birth to the other rhyme-words. In the case before us there is assuredly not much room or occasion for hesitation. Though hidden away in the centre of the sonnet, the sole picture that really suggests to the reader's mind the pretended situation is this :-

Up from the ripen'd corn her silver hook
The moon is lifting;

and naturally the critic begins to ask himself, How is it possible that a picture at once so lovely and so true can have found its way into such a conventional sonnet? and can the poet of the "alembics" and the "Death's-head" have really had the vision of the moon hanging over the ripened corn like a reaping-hook? Then, slowly,

the picture of the evening in harvest time—the ripened corn, the reaping-hook—calls up Ruth,

When, sick for home, She stood in tears amid the alien corn.

And having got so far as Keats's Ruth another and even a lovelier Ruth presents herself to the reader's memory, and he sees at once how the reaping-hook of this sonnet found its way into the dusky nook along-side the "loud brook," the "Death's-head," and the "alembics." Reading in 'La Légende des Siècles,' the poet came upon the following description of Ruth watching the sleeping Boaz; and, thinking that he should like to adopt it, he ingeniously constructed the sonnet for its reception:—

Les astres émaillaient le ciel profond et sombre ; Le croissant fin et clair parmi ces fleurs de l'ombre Brillait à l'occident, et Ruth se demandait, Immobile, ouvrant l'œil à moitié sous ses voiles, Quel dieu, quel moissonneur de l'éternel été, Avait, en s'en allant, négligemment jeté Cette faucille d'or dans le champ des étoiles ?

Not that this method of sonnet manufacture is peculiar to the writer in question; we only wish it were. Nor do we desire to convey the impression that he who wrote this sonnet is incapable of writing good poetry; on the contrary, he has written good poetry; but in a form of poetic art which is properly the embodiment of a single idea it is imperative always to inquire whether the idea and the imagery are the poet's own, and if not, whether at least he has handled them in a manner which is at once worthy of the idea and peculiar to himself.

So many and so stringent are the laws of a form of poetic art such as the sonnet, that perfect sonnets—those in which the frequently recurring rhymes do not clash against each other and in which the metrical wave truly carries the emotional wave—are few indeed, and no anthology could in the matter of selection afford to be governed by these laws. It is, however, in the substance of the sonnet that our language is so rich. Here not the Italian language itself can stand beside it. And in our own time, for some reason or another, the sonnet is evidently the favourite form.

That fashions in poetry, however, are as ephemeral as fashions in costume is a fact which literary history establishes. Just as in Spenser's time the poet found it necessary to write long-winded allegories; just as in Shakspeare's time he was obliged to write dramas more or less sensational; again, just as in Byron's time he must produce sentimental stories of love and adventure, -so at the present moment the poet must clearly write sonnets. Last year gave us Mr. Main's large collection of the sonnets of past writers; this year appears a new edition of Mr. Dennis's collection; and now come these two volumes of Mr. Waddington's: besides which Mr. Hall Caine announces a luxurious volume of greater pretensions still, the striking feature of which is to be a large number of hitherto unpublished sonnets by living writers of eminence. We do not, however, propose to discuss here the sonnet as a form of poetic art. That may be left till the appearance of Mr. Hall Caine's book shall enable us to take a generalized view of the whole of these various collections; for assuredly the time is come to ask, Whither

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are these sonneteers leading us? Yet it may be as well even here to make a rough classification of sonnets under two headsthe objective or Wordsworthian sonnet and the symbolic or Rossettian sonnet. Chief among the sonnet-writers of the first kind are Mr. Matthew Arnold, Mr. Gosse, Mr. Andrew Lang, and Mr. Symonds; while chief among the second kind are Miss Rossetti, Mr. W. B. Scott, Mr. Philip Marston, Prof. Dowden, Mrs. Pfeiffer, Miss Mary Robinson, and Mrs. Moulton. second form seems to be the favourite just now, for reasons which we tried to indicate some time since when speaking of the passion for symbolizing which characterizes contemporary poetry.

Among sonnets of a direct objective kind it would be difficult to say which of the two following is the clearer and brighter. The first is by Mr. Gosse, the second by Mr.

Lang:-

THE TOMB OF SOPHOCLES.

A bounding satyr, golden in the beard,
That leaps with goat-feet high into the air,
And crushes from the thyme an odour rare, Keeps watch around the marble tomb revered Of Sophocles, the poet loved and feared, Whose mighty voice once called out of her lair whose mighty voice once called out of her I
The Dorian muse severe, with braided hair,
Who loved the thyrsus and wild dances weird,
Here all day long the pious bees can pour
Libations of their honey; round this tomb
The Dionysiac ivy loves to roam;
The satyr laughs; but He awakes no more, Wrapped up in silence at the grave's cold core Nor sees the sun wheel round in the white dome,

#### THE ODYSSEY.

As one that for a weary space has lain
Lulled by the song of Circe and her wine
In gardens near the pale of Proserpine,
Where that Ææan isle forgets the main, And only the low lutes of love complain, And only shadows of wan lovers pine, As such an one were glad to know the brine Salt on his lips, and the large air again, So gladly, from the songs of modern speech Men turn, and see the stars, and feel the free Shrill wind beyond the close of heavy flowers, And through the music of the languid hours, They hear like ocean on a western beach.
The surge and thunder of the Odyssey.

Mr. W. B. Scott, although he has written some admirable sonnets of the objective type, is no doubt at his strongest in such sonnets as 'The Universe Void,' which, apart from its poetic qualities, seems to have within it as much of mere intellectual energy as any sonnet in the language. This seems a bold statement, but the reader will agree with it on carefully studying the sonnet :-

Revolving worlds, revolving systems, yea, Revolving firmaments, nor there we end:

Systems of firmaments revolving, send Our thought across the Infinite astray, Gasping and lost and terrified, the day Of life, the goodly interests of home

Shrivelled to nothing; that unbounded dome Pealing still on, in blind fatality.

No rest is there for our soul's winged feet, She must return for shelter to her ark-The body, fair, frail, death-born, incomplete,
And let her bring this truth back from the dark:
Life is self-centred, man is nature's god; Space, time, are but the walls of his abode.

Mr. P. B. Marston is inadequately represented in Mr. Waddington's volume. the following sonnet is extremely fine and full of that passionate pathos which characterizes so much of his work :-

It must have been for one of us, my own, To drink this cup and eat this bitter bread. Had not my tears upon thy face been shed, Thy tears had dropped on mine; if I alone Did not walk now, thy spirit would have known My loneliness, and did my feet not tread This weary path and steep, thy feet had bled For mine, and thy mouth had for mine made moan; And so it comforts me, yea, not in vain,
To think of thy eternity of sleep,
To know thine eyes are tearless though mine weep:

And when this cup's last bitterness I drain, One thought shall still its primal sweetness keep Thou hadst the peace and I the undying pain.

The capacities of the sonnet are wide, but there is apparently something in its very form which suggests meditation. Here is an example in a sonnet by Mr. Alfred Austin :

When in the long-drawn avenues of Thought I halt, and look before me and behind, And seek what erst I all too little sought, Some spot secure of rest, I do not find. Retrace my steps I dare not, lest each nook I late rejected should reject me now, And sweetest arbours, restlessly forsook, No more be prone their leafage to allow. So to the untrod distance do I strain, Which seemeth ever further to extend; Desiring oft, in irritable pain, Premature sleep would bring that settled End, When I shall know it all, or else forget This far too little which for more doth fret, Here is another by Mr. William Allingham, in which the meditation, very beautiful and entirely new, seems to have been partly the result and partly the cause of the form adopted :-

Now Autumn's fire burns slowly along the woods, And day by day the dead leaves fall and melt, And night by night the monitory blast Wails in the key-hole, telling how it pass'd O'er empty fields, or upland solitudes, Or grim wide wave; and now the power is felt Of melancholy, tenderer in its moods Than any joy indulgent summer dealt. Dear friends, together in the glimmering eve, Pensive and glad, with tones that recognize The soft invisible dew in each one's eyes, It may be, somewhat thus we shall have leave To walk with memory, when distant lies Poor earth, where we were wont to live and grieve.

Mr. Waddington in his preface points with pride to the sonnets of "Mrs. Fanny Kemble," as well he may. The following, once read, will not be easily forgotten :-Art thou already weary of the way Thou who hast yet but half the way gone o'er get up, and lift thy burthen: lo, before Thy feet the road goes stretching far away. If thou already faint, who hast but come Through half thy pilgrimage, with fellows gay, Love, youth, and hope, under the rosy bloom And temperate airs of early breaking day; Look yonder, how the heavens stoop and gloom, There cease the trees to shade, the flowers to spring, And th' angels leave thee; what wilt thou become Through you drear stretch of dismal wandering, Lonely and dark? I shall take courage, friend, For comes not every step more near the end?

Further, attention may be drawn to Mrs. Meynell, a writer who is comparatively unknown, but whose sonnets are very sweet and have a certain delicate perfume peculiar to themselves. Unfortunately the specimens given by Mr. Waddington, though good, are scarcely fair representatives of her work. Still we may quote one of them :-Like him who met his own eyes in the river, The poet trembles at his own long gaze, That meets him thro' the changing nights and days, From out great Nature; all her waters quiver With his fair image facing him for ever; The music that he listens to, betrays His own heart to his ears; by trackless ways His wild thoughts tend to him in long endeavour. His dreams are far among the silent hills; His vague voice calls him from the darkened plain With winds at night; strange recognition thrills His lonely heart with piercing love and pain; He knows his sweet mirth in the mountain rills, His weary tears that touch him with the rain.

We are not sure, however, that double rhymes are not a mistake in English sonnets, even when they are as liquid and as soft as these. There is, of course, all the difference in the world between the effect of double rhymes in English and the effect of Italian rhymes. In the regular sonnet the quick recurrence of the rhyme-sounds in our consonantal language makes the rhymebeat of even single rhymes sufficiently heavy, and, indeed, too heavy when, as often happens, the rhymes run upon two consonants (like nd) throughout the octave, and double rhymes always overweight a sonnet with rhyme-power. Nor has Mrs. Meynell overcome the difficulty in this sonnet. Although r is almost a vowel, there is no sound, perhaps, which will less easily bear a frequent recurrence in the rhyme-words of a sonnet, as will be seen in Mr. Robert Buchanan's 'Motion of the Mists ':-

Here by the sunless Lake there is no air, Yet with how ceaseless motion, like a shower Flowing and fading, do the high Mists lower Amid the gorges of the Mountains bare.

Some weary breathing never ceases there,—
The barren peaks can feel it hour by hour;
The purple depths are darkened by its power; A soundless breath, a trouble all things share That feel it come and go. See! onward swim The ghostly Mists, from silent land to land, From gulf to gulf; now the whole air grows dim-Like living men, darkling a space, they stand, But lo! a Sunbeam, like the Cherubim, Scatters them onward with a flaming brand,

Those who are familiar with mountain effects will recognize and admire the truth of this picture of "the ghostly Mists," and will at the same time regret the monotony caused by every line in the octave ending

with the soft sound of r. Our literature is far from being rich in the light, playful sonnet, of which such charming examples are to be found in French and Italian. That there is nevertheless a demand for such work is evidenced by the popularity of Mr. Rossetti's one example in this style, 'A Match with the Moon,'—a sonnet which is to be found, we have observed, in every recent anthology of miscellaneous poetry. Remembering this, we turned with some eagerness to the sonnets Mr. Waddington gives by our two contemporary writers of society verse, Mr. Frederick Locker and Mr. Austin Dobson, but found that while the first discourses in grave fashion of 'Love, Time, and Death,' the other, though he makes use of such a tempting title as 'Apple Blossoms,' gives instead of badinage something very like serious passion. Each, however, is excellent in its way, but we can only find room for Mr. Locker's:—

Ah me, dread friends of mine,-Love, Time, and Death:

Sweet Love, who came to me on sheeny wing, And gave her to my arms—her lips, her breath, And all her golden ringlets clustering: And Time, who gathers in the flying years, He gave me all, but where is all he gave? He took my love and left me barren tears, Weary and lone I follow to the grave. There Death will end this vision half-divine,

Wan Death, who waits in shadow evermore, And silent, ere he gave the sudden sign; Oh, gently lead me thro' thy narrow door, Thou gentle Death, thou trustiest friend of mine-Ah me, for Love-will Death my love restore?

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NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

The Portrait of a Lady. By Henry James. jun. 3 vols. (Macmillan & Co.)

John Barlow's Ward. 2 vols. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

The Great Tontine. By Hawley Smart. 3 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)

Ir is impossible not to feel that Mr. James has at last contrived to write a dull book. The Portrait of a Lady' is of enormous length, being printed much more closely than is usual with three-volume novels; and a large part of it is made up of page after page of narrative and description, in which the author goes on refining and distinguishing, as if unable to hit on the exact terms necessary to produce the desired effect. There is, of course, plenty of dialogue as well, but not very much of a kind to make the reader wish, as he may have done in the case of some of Mr. James's stories, that he had himself been a sharer in it. Here and there a tiresome artifice is employed, that of indicating a conversation by giving one person's remarks only, much as a cross-examination is reported in the newspapers. The theme is one which seems to possess an inexhaustible attraction for the author. An American girl, brought up more or less unconventionally though among ordinary people, conceives high but somewhat un-defined notions of her duty, refuses some excellent men on the ground that she does not want to marry anybody, and in a few months is caught by the first æsthetic impostor whom she comes across. After this the history becomes fragmentary; but we find on our next meeting with the heroine that her husband, on perceiving that he has married a woman with views of her own and disinclined to take her place among his bibelots, has begun to hate her. Finally, a revelation is made to her about some passages in his former life, and the reader fancies that Mr. James intends to bring about a crisis; yet the only result is to decide her to take a journey against her husband's wishes, and the story leaves her just started back to rejoin him. Nor is the least hint given to show in what way their subsequent relations are to be modified either by her knowledge of his past offences or by her disobedience to his orders. That is to say, this so-called "portrait of a lady" is left unfinished just at the point where some really decisive and enlightening strokes begin to be possible. It may, of course, be wrong to assume that the portrait to which the title refers is that of the heroine. There are other ladies in the story of whom we form a far clearer conception than of Isabel Osmond. For example, there is her friend Miss Stackpole, the lady-correspondent of the New York Interviewer, who is really an admirable representative of the literary lady—hard-headed and tender-hearted, shrewd and naïve, unconventional to the verge of scandal, yet as ignorant of evil as a child. There is Isabel's aunt, Mrs. Touchett, who "agrees to differ" from her husband, and lives, more Americano, in Italy when she is not at New York or on the way between the two, the husband being domiciled wholly in England. There are, indeed, portraits of ladies enough and clear enough; the only one who is not portrayed so as to make the reader understand her is the

heroine. This may be a bit of mystification on Mr. James's part; if so, it can only be said that it is not a novelist's business to mystify his readers, certainly not at this length. That he has aimed at brevity may sometimes excuse an author for being obscure; but obscurity through three long volumes is unpardonable. Mr. James sins in a small matter of style. He has taken to coining and using some very awkward words. "Modicity" as the noun of moderate, "superurban" of a house on a hill above a town, "fine" in the sense of clever (French fin), are not desirable additions to the language. Nor does the epithet "weary" as applied to the brickwork of an old house add much to the picture. When we read of "doors perched upon little 'stoops' of red stone, which descended sidewise to the street," we are disposed to smile alike at the ingenuity with which the writer repudiates one term belonging to the English of the United States and the simplicity with which he adopts another. To revert once more to general criticism: there is no doubt that reticence is a virtue in a novelist, but it may be carried too far, and this Mr. James, from a feeling, probably, of repugnance for the gushing and sensational, seems to have done. He should remember that much of human life cannot be painted in "tertiary" tints, and that if he wishes to be a master in the art of portraying it he must furnish his box with some stronger colours, and lay them on boldly.

'John Barlow's Ward' is pleasantly written. Although not possessing any written. Although not possessing any great originality either in outline or in detail, the plot is sufficiently well contrived, and with the help of an easy style the author has produced a by no means unattractive book. It is evidently the work of a woman who has a nice power of observation. Here is a bit of description which is a fair specimen of her work. She is giving an account of a little party in a northern manufacturing town :-

"By the fire, closely tended by Mrs. Thornton, sat a lidy in pale green silk, who seemed of some importance, and who subjected the whole room, from ceiling to floor, to minute but silent in-spection. The curate's wife sat opposite, looking at an album, while her husband talked very earnestly to the only other representative of his sex, in a window at the end of the room. There was another man present, Hester afterwards found, but he was a youth of great timidity, who, regardless of the fact that the game was not becoming to his large red hands, and that the sound of constantly dropped balls made people turn and look at him, sat playing 'soli-taire' in a corner."

The heroine has married a widower considerably older than herself, and the misunderstandings and misfortunes upon which the plot depends are brought about by the jealousy of the husband's sister. This seems rather forced, and the author hardly succeeds in showing sufficient grounds, either in the circumstances or in the sister's character, for her extraordinary vindictiveness. Possibly she may be content with knowing that such things do happen in real life, where motives are very hard to trace. In a novel, however, it is the author's business to give readers not only the clue, but something that looks like a sufficient ground for the conduct of the characters.

always classical, is generally employed upon a more or less interesting plot. In the present case he has been specially happy. The Great Tontine, the details of which admirable scheme we omit, leads to an amusing antagonism between the interests of a needy peer, a wily country lawyer, and an amiable maiden lady and her still more amiable niece. Lord Lakington is a model of gentlemanly selfishness; to the great question, "What is to become of me?" the interests of his daughter and the health of his mother-in-law are, in their respective ways, entirely subordinate. Some of the best bits of writing in the book are the arguments by which his lordship first recommends, and then induces the rejection of, the proposals of Mr. Pegram, jun., the attorney's hopeful son, for the fair Beatrice's hand. There is something excellently conventional about all the environments of Lord Lakington. In a different style the adroitness and perseverance of the Pegram family are good. It is a cruel blow to that ingenious family when the London manager is brought down to detect the capital farce played by Bob Pegram and his young theatrical friend in the characters of old Mr. Krabbe, one of the last "lives," and his nurse. Altogether the story is theatrical, though it deserves praise as a novel of the lighter kind.

A History of the English Church: First Period. By G. G. Perry, Canon of Lincoln. (Murray.)

This volume, called on the title-page the "First Period" of the history of the Engthe second period, which embraces the last three centuries and has already been published. We must take the term "history" in a very wide sense indeed in order to include Mr. Perry's book under it, for it would be more rightly described as a series of lectures or separate essays, following the chronology of English church history and dealing with it in divisions or subdivisions, some particular characteristic or subject of the time being taken for the text of each. Regarded in this light the book will be found of service to students, for whose special use it has been written. But a considerable previous acquaintance with other histories, truly so named, will also be required.

The author writes from a strictly High Anglican point of view; and although there is little which can be called controversial in his work, yet the chief aim and purpose are clear throughout, namely, to show that the Church of England, from the time of St. Augustine of Canterbury to the present day, has never ceased to struggle against the authority and encroachments of the see of Rome. As Mr. Perry says in his brief preface :-

"It will be perhaps a surprise to some to discover how constantly the Church of England is found contending against the encroachments and exactions of a foreign power, and asserting its rights against the ever growing pretensions of Papal supremacy.

This is true enough, so far as the instances which Mr. Perry dwells on are concerned, such as contests about appointments to Mr. Hawley Smart's airy style, if not benefices and episcopal sees, about wills and suits in ecclesiastical courts, about temporalities and clerical privileges, or about the relations between the regular and the secular clergy. But there is no evidence of any "struggle" against doctrines insisted on by the Church of Rome, or about any article of the Catholic faith; on matters of this kind the agreement of the Church of England with the Church of Rome was complete and absolute for a thousand years, and, so far as we see, Mr. Perry has noticed the matter very slightly if at all. Possibly it may be said not to have been an object within the scope of his inquiries; but, at any rate, his book can scarcely on that account claim to be a history of the English Church.

claim to be a history of the English Church. Regarded, as we have said, as a series of essays on separate periods of the history of the English Church, Mr. Perry's book will be found to be of considerable use. The histories, rightly so called, of Mr. Freeman and Prof. Stubbs have been largely drawn upon by the author; but there is evidence also of considerable search by himself into some of the original authorities. At the end of most of the chapters is an appendix of "Notes and Illustrations."
These are not of much value or importance, and undoubtedly are very brief. Unless Mr. Perry is quoting himself, which is possible, we think he might have referred to books of greater weight and importance than the 'Dictionary of Christian Antiquities' and the 'Dictionary of Christian Biography,' which alone, we believe, "illustrate" his first four chapters. The essays themselves are carefully compiled, and there are but few passages which show haste or ignorance; such, for example, as explaining a super-altar to be "a small piece of stone or metal which had been duly blessed, and which was inserted into the wooden table "(p. 118). It is, however, surprising that Mr. Perry, whose reading is evidently extensive, should have fallen into the common error that Wickliffe was the chief if not the only author of the almost numberless religious tracts in English of the middle of the fourteenth century, or that the translation of the Scriptures is to be attributed to him. That Wickliffe revised a large portion of the existing translations, and made them more accordant with the common language of his day, is highly pro-bable; but versions in the vulgar tongue of much of the Old Testament and all the New, except, perhaps, the Apocalypse, had existed from Anglo-Saxon times to his own.

SCHOOL-BOOKS.

Longmans' Modern Copy-Books, Nos. I. and II.—Longmans' Modern Series: Arithmetic, Parts I.-IV. (Standards I.-IV.).—The Illustrated Readers: Primer, First and Second Books.—Illustrated Poetical Reader. (Longmans & Co.)—The copy-books, intended for the First Standard, are prepared by a practised hand and suited for beginners. The 'Arithmetic' forms an ample collection of appropriate exercises, with all the necessary tables of money, weights, and measures. Some explanation is also given, but it is so scanty and insufficient that it might as well have been omitted, the teacher being left to supply all that is required. Much stouter binding is necessary. The 'Illustrated Readers' consist of good reading lessons in clear, bold type, with numerous illustrations of varied value. In the 'Illustrated Poetical Reader' are found more of the poems specified in inspectors' lists than are contained in previous

collections. It would be difficult to point out a single one that does not deserve a place in such a collection, while many of them are of the highest excellence, and all are well adapted for the higher standards, pupil teachers, and private schools. For meeting the requirements of the latest code, which happily makes the learning of poetry by heart a class subject, no better manual than this need be desired. Short accounts of the life and works of each author are prefixed, and a few explanatory notes added where required.

Poetry for the Young: a Collection in Four Parts. Part I. (Griffith & Farran.)—The materials composing 'Poetry for the Young' are decidedly inferior to the above, as must be expected, considering they are intended for children from six to ten years of age. But even for such young readers and learners poems of greater merit, by writers of higher standing, might have been substituted for a large proportion of those here given, which lack the musical charm of true poetry. The explanatory notes at the end are good. It is not easy to see why brief biographies of authors whose works are not included should have been given, especially as it is thought necessary that these and the explanatory notes should not be consulted by the

young readers.

Bell's Reading Books:—Great Englishmen:
Short Lives for Young Children.—Select Tales
by Maria Edgeworth. (Bell & Sons.)—The
information of real value in the first of these
volumes may be found in any good history of
England, and read with greater advantage in the
light of accompanying historical matter than
in this collection of slight, unconnected biographies, which, in spite of the childish form of
expression assumed, cannot be perfectly comprehended, much less fully appreciated, by
children who have not previously obtained some
knowledge of history. The second volume, containing five tales from Miss Edgeworth's 'Parents'
Assistant,' the last two of which have been a
little shortened, is much better fitted to serve
as a separate reading book, and cannot fail both
to interest and improve its readers.

Elementary German. By Charles P. Otis, Ph.D. (New York, Holt & Co.)—This small German grammar proves itself to be the work of an adept in the art of teaching. An immense amount of clear instruction is compressed within the 186 pages which treat of grammar, and is made as interesting as mere grammatical rudiments can be made. A prominent feature of the work is the addition of a "conversation" and "reading" to each chapter. These exercises are, of course, of varying degrees of difficulty; but throughout much care and thought have been devoted to their selection, and they are nearly all interesting and readable for their own subject-matter, so that boys and girls using Dr. Otis's manual must from the first look upon German as a possible means of enjoyment; and teachers of languages will here recognize no slight gain. By means of these exercises the scholar acquires familiarity with a considerable number of quaint German proverbs and prevalent idiomatic expressions which, somehow or other, remain quite outside the purview of ordinary school grammars. The second part of the work (about twenty pages) contains selec-tions of German prose and poetry for trans-lation. The first part of the volume is printed in Roman, the second in German type; this arrangement appears to us eminently unsatisfactory, and far more likely to puzzle than help the learner; for both single and double letters in German print and manuscript are likely to be exceptionally perplexing to eyes accustomed to spelling and writing in Roman letters, whereas the difficulty is reduced to a minimum when from the first German words appear in the national character. The third and last section of the work is devoted to German handwriting, vocabularies, and lists of irregular verbs. Unfortunately the author has selected for his specimens of manuscript a character which is ridiculously small. Many Germans write a distressingly fine, crabbed hand, but, as a rule, not quite so bad as that recommended by Dr. Otis; if they did, an extensive German correspondence would to a large extent resolve itself into a series of microscopical investigations. It is not likely that this grammar will obtain general acceptance on this side of the Atlantic; for American idioms are too prevalent in it, and the German itself exhibits not unfrequently marked Transatlantic characteristics.

Historical Outline of the English Constitution for Beginners. By David Watson Rannie. (Longmans & Co.)—Mr. Rannie has undertaken the difficult task of giving in 170 pages a brief sketch of the growth of the English Constitution. The task is difficult because it requires great precision of statement as well as great judgment in selecting important points. Mr. Rannie has, on the whole, succeeded tolerably well. His book is certainly clear and simple, and he has contrived to be fairly accurate. He has not escaped the mistake almost inevitable in books escaped the mistake amost inevitable in books of this kind—of interspersing explanations of almost ludicrous simplicity with statements which involve a considerable grasp of abstract ideas. Thus we have sentences like the following coming close after one another : "As you know the queen does not give the dignity of peerage to any one because he is supposed to have a more divine nature than other people, but because he has been a great soldier or a great statesman, or for some other reason."—"The law which the English judges expounded was the collection of traditions which had been generated by the common sense and justice of the German tribes, and acquiesced in by the nation." This last sentence would require from a teacher explanation tence would require from a teacher explanation of almost every word. Many of Mr. Rannie's remarks are misleading through an attempt to give a brief account of complicated phenomena. Thus he writes: "Sometimes when a tribe found Thus he writes: "Sometimes when a tribe found it necessary to set up a fortress, a sort of military township sprang up around it called a burh or burgh. These burghs were the beginnings of our boroughs and cities. But the beginnings were very unlike what came after, for the old English never thought of living in cities, as we now understand them." The most unsatisfactory part of Mr. Rannie's book is his treatment of the jury system. He says: "How the kind of trial originated is matter of dispute. Henry II. did not invent it; but he applied and developed it in English judicature. Juries in the twelfth century were of two kinds." The date "in the twelfth century" is very vague; and Mr. Rannie has nothing to say of the Norman system of inquest, or of its use in taking the Domesday survey. Again, Mr. Rannie is not clear about provisors and premunire; he writes as though the Popes claimed all ecclesiastical patronage in England, and does not explain that Papal bulls were the means of enforcing obedience to the judicial decisions of the Papal courts, where trivial appeals were entertained. Defects of this kind are almost inseparable from a book on such a scale as the one before us. On the whole, Mr. Rannie's work is well done, and is clear and

trustworthy.

French History for English Children. By Sarah Brook. (Macmillan & Co.)—There may be differences of opinion about the usefulness of teaching children French history; at all events, it will be agreed that they had better be taught English history first. If this be so, it is clear that they will have some store of ideas to begin with, and need not have everything elaborately explained from its origin. Yet Miss Brook deems it necessary to sketch the development of the rudiments of civilization: "By degrees the Gauls began to find out that their country was fertile; that is, that whatever seed they sewed in the ground would grow up quickly and bear good fruit, and some of them began to make it their business to sow seed and cut down the grain when it grew up, and to work in the fields

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as our farmers do, so that the people might have something else to eat besides the animals that the hunters brought home." This passage, which occurs at the beginning of the book, marks its great defect. Miss Brook does not content her-self with telling so much of French history as would be likely to be intelligible and interesting to a child who knew something about English history. She aims at telling everything that an advanced history of France would contain. By this method she has sacrificed much of the pic torial element in French history which is so well adapted to interest an intelligent child, while on the other hand her explanations of difficult points are no doubt well meaning, but are neither clear nor accurate. Thus, in explaining the origin of the Holy Roman Empire, she says:— After the death of Julius Cresar.....the Romans determined to choose one ruler once for all, to call him emperor, and to allow him to leave the title to his son, or to any one he might choose to succeed him."-"Pope Leo thought that by making Charlemagne emperor, which was sup-posed to give him power over all Italy and all other countries belonging to the Romans, he should make sure of always having him for a friend." In these passages we see a hopeless misunderstanding of the whole matter, which "Charlemagne therefore became Emperor of France, of Germany, and of Italy," though France and Germany had not yet been invented. Surely Mr. Freeman and Mr. Bryce have lived and laboured in vain if such things can still be written. More than this, we are told that, in the eleventh century, "France and Germany were at this time distinct countries, and though it might have happened that the French king should also be Emperor of Germany—and in fact the empire was once offered to King Robert-it the empire was once offered to King Robert—it never did happen that the same sovereign ruled over the two countries." After this it is not surprising to find the following lucid account of the growth of the Papacy:—"The Pope, to begin with, had been only Bishop of Rome, and one of four bishops who were over all the others and were all four very important people. But in time the other three bishops were forgotten, and became no greater than all the others, while the Bishop of Rome was more and more looked up to, and treated with respect, first by all Italy, then by all Europe.....In early days the Pope chose all the other chief bishops in all the counknowledge of English history would demur to this last statement, while it would require a great knowledge to make any sense out of the first one. In the purely French part of the history Miss Brook commits the same mistake ; she tries to tell far too much and tells it too scrappily. If she had been content to be less learned she would probably have been more accurate, and certainly would have been more interesting.

The Young Student's English History Reading Book. (National Society.)—This book "is intended to be used in the more advanced classes of elementary schools and in higher schools, where something more than a skeleton outline of facts is felt to be desirable." It is a sequel to the four historical reading books by Miss Yonge, which have already been noticed in these pages. It gives a short and pleasantly written aketch of English history from the beginning to the present time in the small space of about 2500 pages. The only peculiarity of the book seems to be that it presents the history in a series of "pictures"; for instance, "William I. and Domesday Book," or "Maritime Adventure and the Spanish Armada." Hints are given for the study of the intermediate periods, but the "picturesque" view of history is clearly the one adopted, and we accordingly find many quotations from Mr. Green and frequent traces of his influence. Against this, however, in a book of this kind, meant to give young students a liking for history or to make their reading lessons

more attractive, we have nothing to say. It may be doubted whether it was worth while to use difficult or uncommon words, which have to be explained in the notes, in order to familiarize the student with their uses. A section, for instance, is headed "The Fatherland of our Progenitors," and a note explains that "progenitors means "forefathers." If this process is calculated to enlarge the reader's vocabulary, it is also very likely to spoil his style. Apart from this eccentricity, the book is worthy of praise. The facts appear to be correctly stated, the "pictures" of English history are lively and interesting, and the book ought to attain the double object for which it was intended.

Outlines of English Constitutional History, By B. C. Skottowe. (Oxford, Thornton.)—The author of this little book states that his object is "to assist beginners in reading constitutional history, by arranging in order outlines of the growth of the most important institutions."
We must confess to having a rooted objection to these helps to beginners, otherwise called cram-books. They are designed to save beginners a good deal of trouble which they ought to take for themselves, and to digest the learning of others in such a way that it can be committed to memory and carried bodily into the Schools. Apart from this initial defect, the work appears to be fairly well done as far as it goes. A list of the headings of chapters will show that this is not very far. Mr. Skottowe treats of the history of feudalism before and after the Norman Conquest; of the policy of William the Conqueror; of the National Council, privilege of Parliament, and taxation. It is obvious that this is by no means an exhaustive list either of institutions or of other matters connected with constitutional history. It is certainly well to distinguish between the history of institutions, or the machinery of government, and the history of the political struggle for control over this machinery. Mr. Skottowe confines himself almost entirely to the former subject. He finds little, therefore, to say about the period after Edward I., and next to nothing of the Tudor and Stuart periods. His book is little more than an abstract of certain portions of Prof. Stubbs's 'Constitutional History,' and naturally stops short at 1485. It is not quite clear why a separate chapter has been devoted to the policy of William the Conqueror. That policy was, no doubt, very important, but hardly more so than that of Henry II. or Edward I. Moreover, in a history of institutions, the facts given in chapter iii. would have been better arranged under the separate heads to which, viewed as institutions, they belong. The author has a mania for arranging his facts under as few heads as possible, and the result is sometimes not only confusing, but destructive of true historical relation and proportion. For instance, the jury system is treated in the chapter entitled "The National Council," simply because representation is, in some sort, common to both. There is no separate chapter about the Church in its political relations, and what is told about this most important branch of constitutional history has to be gathered from all parts of the book. Mr. Skottowe appears, in fact, to have begun his work on a scale and plan which, for some reason or other, he deserted afterwards The best part of the book consists of the first three chapters. The account of tenures before the Conquest is especially good. The sketch of the jury system, on the other hand, is obscure, and there not unfrequently occur passages which would be unintelligible to any one not reviously acquainted with the subject. Mr. Skottowe should not have followed Hallam so implicitly in declaring the Court of Star Chamber synonymous with the Council. The facts in general seem, however, to be correctly stated, and the book will no doubt be found useful by a certain class of students.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

From Sword to Share; or, a Fortune in Five Years at Hawaii, by Capt. H. Whalley Nicholson (Allen & Co.), deals with an attractive theme, and Hawaii would certainly be a pleasant place for making the experiment. When, therefore, the author undertakes to show how a certain capital invested there in sugar planting has been or might be: it is all the same on paper—quadrupled within five years, he ought not to lack readers. From a literary point of view there is not much to be said for the book. Some amount of information about the islands and the social life at Honolulu, none of it very new, is put together in a jerky, inflated style, which obscures the meaning and minimizes the utility of the book. The gist of it, however, i. e., the actual statistics explaining how the fortune is to be made, is, happily for the would-be fortunemaker, all contained in some thirty pages, in which the author seems to have put pressure on himself to write quietly. Business is business, after all. The volume contains some photographs of Hawaiian princesses, which show rather forcibly how the divinity which hedges black, or even brown, royalty is dispelled by European costume.

What Her Majesty's Inspectors Say, by Mr. T. R. Clifford, comes to us from the North of England School Furnishing Company, Newcastle. Mr. Cliffordhasfor the second time extracted from the annual Blue-Book, and presented to the public in readable form, the opinions of her Majesty's inspectors on the salient features of public elementary schools throughout Great Britain. The opinions of the inspectors are given in order under the headings—reading, writing, arithmetic, specific subjects, needlework, discipline, &c.—to which they refer, so that the reader may readily compare, or it may be contrast, the views of officials whose position and experience render them the best and most impartial authorities on most of the questions which arise in the working of the various education acts, and on the codes which now follow one another in wearying succession. It is probable that this compendium will be largely used by school teachers and managers; happily its cost is less than a quarter that of the Blue-Book, and it is free from the repellent statistical tables with which the report of the Committee of Council abounds. The usefulness of the work is, however, much impaired by the omission of a copious, well-arranged index; for the summary, which presumably stands in the place of one, is in the highest degree perplexing to the eye and bewildering to the mind.

THE Twelfth Annual Report of the Committee of the Wolverhampton Free Library mentions the opening of the new lecture and examination hall. The extension of the lending library has enabled the librarian, Mr. Elliot, to put 2,197 additional volumes into circulation. A reference library room was opened in last February. The museum was opened in September.

museum was opened in September.

The Papers of the Manchester Literary Club, Vol. VII., 1881 (Manchester, A. Heywood & Son), are, as might be expected, of a mixed character. Whilst Sir J. A. Picton discourses learnedly about 'Falstaff and his Followers,' Mr. H. H. Howorth refers to 'The Suicidal Character of Hune's Philosophy,' and Mr. J. H. E. Partington, a local artist of repute, in 'A Story of a Picture' exclaims against that English pseudo-modesty which demands that a female figure should be draped, whilst true art would depict her naked. The character and works of the late George Eliot are discussed by four writers, and there are gossiping articles on autumn days in North and South Wales and on 'The Literature and Scenery of the English Lake District.' Mr. C. W. Sutton, in his painstaking 'Manchester Bibliography, 1880,' has, curiously enough, omitted all reference to the publications of one or two well-known Manchester authors, whilst his list is swelled by entries of works by writers

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whose connexion with Manchester, if any, is of the slightest possible character. Mr. Lithgow recalls the history of his namesake, William Lithgow, the eccentric Scottish traveller; Mr. J. E. Bailey has an interesting paper on the old Cheshire family of the Warburtons of Arley; and Mr. John Evans brings together some notes on Byrom's Christmas hymns. The volume is very readable, but no one of the papers is particularly striking. It is well printed and got up, and contains several full-page illustrations.

MESSRS. WARNE & Co. have added to their "Arundel Poets" an edition of Moore, and "Arundel Poets" an edition of Moore, and also send us an "Albion" edition of Byron.

—A pretty edition of Miss Procter's Legends and Lyrics comes to us from Messrs. G. Bell & Sons.

Count Campello's Autobiography, of which Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton publish a translation, is a brief and rather dry narrative, and will somewhat disappoint the reader.

We have sundry calendars on our table, two of which, sent by Messrs. Bemrose, are worthy of praise, although the colouring might be improved.—The design of Messrs. Marcus Ward & Co.'s Every-Day Calendar is good, but the quotations might have been selected with more judgment. The Shaksperean Calendar of the same firm is excellent in its way.

MESSRS. WARD & Lock send us Glenny's Garden Almanac, an excellent annual.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

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#### TO TERESA.

DEAR child of mine, the wealth of whose warm hair Hangs like ripe clusters of the apricot, Thy blue eyes, gazing, comprehend me not, But love me, and for love alone I care; Thou listenest with a shy and serious air, Like some Sabrina from her weedy grot Outpeeping coyly when the noon is hot

To watch some shepherd piping unaware. 'Twas not for thee I sang, dear child;—and yet Would that my song could reach such ears as thine,

Pierce to young hearts unsullied by the fret Of years in their white innocence divine; Crowned with a wreath of buds still dewy-wet, O what a fragrant coronal were mine

EDMUND W. GOSSE

WAS CINDERELLA THE YOUNGEST DAUGHTER?

In the classification of folk-tales the story of Cinderella is generally put down as typical of youngest daughter being ill treated (see Folk-lore Record, vol. i. p. 77). Now I think I have a note upon the subject which throws this classification a little out of place by showing that Cinderella was not the youngest but the eldest

I cannot but think that the explanation of many of our folk-tales can best be found from the fragments of primitive social customs which Thus to me Cinderella is chiefly they contain. important as the guardian of the fire—the cinder wench. Mr. Lang put forth this notion in 1880, and the Rev. S. Beal followed it up by some explanations which Japanese and Greek mythology seemed to afford. But in these versions of Cinderella's old-world character she is represented as the youngest daughter. Now let me turn to another view of the case, and, I venture to think, a more likely one. That she is the guardian of the hearth is, I think, proved by Mr. Lang and Mr. Beal; that she is therefore the youngest daughter is not proved, and, according to my notions, it is not in accordance with the facts of the first proof.

The sacred house-fire was in primitive society ever burning. Mr. Hearn in his 'Aryan House-hold' asserts that the duty of attending to this ever-burning house-fire belonged to the housemother (see p. 87); and the survivals of the old hearth cult as seen in modern custom and folk-lore tend to confirm this view, for, as in the very significant ceremonies described by Mr. Arthur J. Evans in Macmillan's Magazine for January, 1881, it is the house-mother only who assists in the hearth ritual. But that under certain circumstances or that in its earliest stage this duty should belong to the daughter of the house can readily be granted. The Greek and Latin worship of the hearth involved the virgin purity of its priestesses, the vestal virgins only being allowed to handle the sacred fire. Transfer this principle from the hearth-fire of the town or tribe to the hearth-fire of the house or family, and we arrive at the priestess or guardian of the fire being a daughter of the house. Was she the youngest daughter? I think not. The Greek Hestia was the eldest child, it is said, of Kronos

and Rhea, and she is likewise the goddess of the household sanctuary, or rather of the fire burning on the hearth (Cox's 'Introduction to Mythology and Folk-lore, p. 167). And, moreover, among the many remarkable features of the hearth worship belonging to the Ovaherero tribe of South Africans, we have it put plainly before us that "the eldest unmarried daughter of the chief has charge of the sacred fire, since this must never be allowed to go out" (South African

must level by the folk-lore Journal, vol. ii. p. 66).

If Cinderella, then, represents in modern traditional folk-tales the archaic guardian of the sacred house-fire, she should be the eldest daughter. But surely there is no doubt that the story as we have it in our nurseries represents her as the eldest daughter of her father. The other daughters are but step-daughters, and, if in point of years they are older, in point of status they are younger; or if, carrying out the archaic origin of the story a little further, we view the second marriage of the father as a relic of polygamy, still Cinderella, it appears to me, is in the story not the youngest but the eldest daughter. As such she can be identified, I doubt not, with the old hearth religion of primitive times—she is always the cinder wench, her place is at the hearth, and the world-known story which takes its name from her thus opens up a glimpse into the primitive home of man.

G. LAURENCE GOMME.

BALE. The sale of the library of the late Mr. Comer-ford has been continued since we last went to press at the rooms of Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge. The prices have ruled high. The lots which attracted most attention were the first which attracted most attention were the first Brighton Guide, a sixpenny pamphlet, which sold for 2l. 10s.; Brighthelmstone Directory, 5l. 10s.; Britton's Architectural and Cathedral Antiquities, 22l. 19s.; Braun's Civitates Orbis, 3 vols., 13l. 13s.; Braybrooke's Audley End, large paper, 13l. 15s.; Brydges's Northamptonships, 2 vols., 14l. 10s.; Brydges's Views, 33l. large paper, 13t. 15s.; Brydges's Northampton-shire, 2 vols., 14t. 10s.; Buck's Views, 33t.; Byble of 1539, imperfect, 24t.; Christi Vita, manuscript with miniatures, 14t. 14s.; Chro-nicles of England, Scotland, Ireland, France, &c., 17t. 10s.; Collinson's Somersetshire, 10t. 15s.; Cowyat's Crudities, 25t. 5s.; Dalla-way's Sussex, 75t.; Chronicon Nurembergense, 15t. 15s.; Chevney's Hortfordshire, 21t. 15l. 15s; Chauncy's Hertfordshire, 21l. 15s.; Clutterbuck's Hertfordshire, 46l.; Comberford's Map of Virginia, the original drawing, dated 1657, with his signature, 16*l*.; Crome's Norfolk Scenery, 13*l*.; Dibdin's Typographical Antiquities, large paper, 26*l*. 10s.; Dibdin's Bibliotheca Spenceriana, 31*l*.; Dibdin's Decameron, 14l. 5s.; Dibdin's Tour in France and Germany, 16l.; Doleman's Conference about the next Succession, the printer of which was hung, drawn, and quartered, and even the possession of a copy of the work was made high treason, of a copy of the work was made high treason, 12l. 15s.; Dorat's Baisers, 24l. 10l.; D'Urfey's Pills to Purge Melancholy, 14l.; English Spy, 9l.; Collection of 378 Drools, 20l. 15s.; Drake's York, 12l. 15s.; Drayton's Polyolbion, 17l. 5s.; Drummond's Noble British Families, 12l. 10s.; Dugdale's Warwickshire, first edition, 12l. 10s., and that enlarged by Thomas 45l. Dugdale's and that enlarged by Thomas, 45l.; Dugdale's Monasticon and St. Paul's, enlarged by Caley, Ellis, and Bandinel, 30l.; Queen Elizabeth's Proclamation for Repayment of 1571 Loane, manuscript, with her autograph, 6l. 10s.; Eyton's Shropshire, 20l. 5s.; Gay's Trivia, illustrated, 35l. 10s.; Gough's Sepulchral Monuillustrated, 35l. 10s.; Gough's Sepulchral Monuments, 56l.; Hakluyt's Voyages, with the suppressed Cadiz Voyage, 3ll. 10s.; Hearne's Publications, 42l. 16s. 6d.; Hodgson's Northumberland, 56l.; Horsfield's Sussex, 5l. 15s.; Hasted's Kent, 27l.; Hoare's Ancient Wiltshire, 21l.; Hoare's Modern Wiltshire, 68l.; Holland's Heroologia, 12l.; Horatii Opera, printed in 1482 at Florence by Miscomini, 14l. 10s.; Hunter's Hallamshire and South Yorkshire, 16l. 2s. 6d.; and Hutchins's Dorset, second edition, on large and Hutchins's Dorset, second edition, on large paper, 22l. 10s.

RIVAL MAGAZINES.

You announced in the Athenœum of July 23rd last that a new magazine, entitled the Bibliographer, was to be issued by Mr. Elliot Stock in the autumn of the present year. Since then a large number of prospectuses have been issued, and the new venture has received the support of our leading bibliographers. Within the last few days, and just as the first number of the Bibliographer is ready for issue, a prospectus has been largely circulated by Mr. Edward Walford of a proposed new magazine, to be called the Anti-quarian Magazine and Bibliographer, the first number of which is announced for January 1st, 1882. Now I think that something more than a mere legal question is here raised, and that, therefore, some notice should be taken in your pages of what, to say the least of it, is a direct infringement of the rights of priority, so that the literary public may be set upon their guard in this matter.

Henry B. Wheatley.

#### 'THE ARABIAN NIGHTS.'

Trieste, Nov. 13, 1881.

KINDLY allow me a few lines of personal explanation in reply to many friends. Packing and preparations for an immediate departure Africa-wards-to the gold mines of the Guinea

Coast—compel me to save my time.

Many years ago, in collaboration with my old and lamented friend Dr. F. Steinhaeuser, of the Bombay army, I began to translate the whole of the 'Thousand Nights and a Night.' The book, mutilated in Europe to a collection of fairy tales, and miscalled the 'Arabian Nights,' is unique as and miscalled the 'Arabian Nights,' is unique as a study of anthropology. It is a marvellous picture of Oriental life; its shiftings are those of the kaleidoscope. Its alternation of pathos and bathos—of the boldest poetry (the diction of Job) with the baldest prose (the Egyptian of to-day)—and, finally, its contrast of the highest and purest morality with the orgies of Appuleius and Petronius Arbiter, take away the reader's breath. I determined to render every word with the literalism of Urquhart's Rabelais, and to save the publisher trouble by printing my translation at Brussels.

But non omnia possumus. Although a host of friends has been eager to subscribe, my work is still unfinished; nor could it be finished without a year's hard labour. I rejoice, therefore, to see that Mr. John Payne, under the Villon Society, has addressed himself to a realistic translation, without "abridgments or suppressions." I have only to wish him success, and to express a hope that he is resolved verbum reddere verbo, without deference to any prejudice which would prevent his being perfectly truthful to the original. I want to see that the book has fair play; and if it is not treated as it deserves, I shall still have to print my own version. "Villon," however,

makes me hope for the best. RICHARD F. BURTON.

LETTERS OF GEORGE ELIOT.

WE owe the opportunity of publishing the following letters to the courtesy of Prof. D. Kaufmann, to whom they were addressed. Prof. Kaufmann is well known by his remarks on 'Daniel Deronda,' and it will be seen that his criticisms attracted the notice of the novelist and led to her writing to him:-

and led to her writing to him:—

The Priory, 21, North Bank, May 31, '77.

MY DEAR SIR.—Hardly, since I became an author, have I had a deeper satisfaction, I may say a more hearfelt joy, than you have given me in your estimate of 'Daniel Deronda.'

I must tell you that it is my rule, very strictly observed, not to read the criticisms on my writings. For years I have found this abstinence necessary to preserve me from that discouragement as an artist which ill-judged praise, no less than ill-judged blame, tends to produce in me. For far worse than any verdict as to the proportion of good and evil in our work, is the painful impression that we write for a public which has no discernment of good and evil.

My husband reads any notices of me that come before him, and reports to me (or else refrains from

reporting) the general character of the notice or something in particular which strikes him as show-ing either an exceptional insight or an obtuseness that is gross enough to be amusing. Very rarely, when he has read a critique of me, he has handed it to me, saying, "Fom must read this." And your esti-mate of 'Daniel Deronda' made one of these rare

instances.

Certainly, if I had been asked to choose what should be written about my book and who should write it, I should have sketched—well, not anything so good as what you have written, but an article which must be written by a Jew who showed not merely sympathy with the best aspirations of his race, but a remarkable insight into the nature of art and the processes of the artistic mind. Believe me, I should not have cared to devour even ardent praise if it had not come from one who showed the discrimating sensibility, the perfect response to the artist's intention, which must make the fullest, rarest joy to one who works from inward conviction and not in compliance with current fashions. Such a response one who works from inward conviction and not in compliance with current fashions. Such a response holds for an author not only what is best in "the life that now is," but the promise of "that which is to come." I mean that the usual approximative, narrow perception of what one has been intending and professedly feeling in one's work, impresses one with the sense that it must be poor perishable stuff without roots to take any lasting hold in the minds of men; while any instance of complete comprehension encourages one to hope that the creative prompting has foreshadowed, and will continue to satisfy, a need in other minds.

Excuse me that I write but imperfectly, and perhaps dimly, what I have felt in reading your article. It has affected me deeply, and though the prejudice and ignorant obtuseness which has met my effort to contribute something to the ennobling of Judaism in the consciousness of the Jewish community and in the consciousness of the Jewish community, has never for a moment made me repent my choice, but rather has been added proof to me that the effort

in the consciousness of the Jewish community, has never for a moment made me repent my choice, but rather has been added proof to me that the effort was needed—yet I confess that I had an unsatisfied hunger for certain signs of sympathetic discernment, which you only have given. I may mention as one instance your clear perception of the relation between the presentation of the Jewish element and those of English Social life.

I work under the pressure of small hurries; for we are just moving into the country for the summer, and all things are in a vagrant condition around me. But I wished not to defer answering your letter to

an uncertain opportunity......

My husband has said more than once that he feels grateful to you. For he is more sensitive on my behalf than on his own.

Hence he unites with me in the assurance of the high regard with which I remain

Always yours faithfully, M. E. LEWES,

The Priory, 21, North Bank, Regent's Park, Oct. 12, '77.

MY DEAR SIR,-I trust it will not be otherwise than My DEAR SIR.—I trust it will not be otherwise than gratifying to you to know that your stirring article on 'Daniel Deronda' is now translated into English by a son of Prof. Ferrier, who was a philosophical writer of considerable mark. It will be issued in a handsomer form than that of the pamphlet, and will appear within this autumnal publishing season, Messrs. Blackwood having already advertised it. Whenever a copy is ready we shall have the pleasure of sending it to you. There is often something to be borne with in reading one's own writing in a translation, but I hope that in this case you will not be made to wince severely.

translation, but I hope that in this case you will not be made to wince severely.

In waiting to send you this news I seem to have deferred too long the expression of my warm thanks for your kindness in sending me the Hebrew translations of Lessing and the collection of Hebrew poems, a kindness which I felt myself rather presumptuous in asking for, since your time must be well filled with more important demands. Yet I must further beg you, when you have an opportunity, to assure Herr Bacher that I was most gratefully touched by the sympathetic verses with which he enriched the gift of his work.

I see by your last letter to my husband that your

enriched the gift of his work.

I see by your last letter to my husband that your Theological Seminary was to open on the 4th of this month, so that this too retrospective letter of mine will reach you in the midst of your new duties. I trust that this new Institution will be a great good to professor and students, and that your position is of a kind that you contemplate as permanent. To teach the young personally has always seemed to me the most satisfactory supplement to teaching the world through books, and I have often wished that I had such a means of having fresh, living, spiritual children within sight.

One can hardly turn one's thought toward Eastern Europe just now without a migling of pain and

One can flarely turn one stronger toward passesses. Europe just now without a mingling of pain and dread; but we mass together distant scenes and events in an unreal way, and one would like to believe that the present troubles will not at any

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time press on you in Hungary with more external misfortune than on us in England.

misfortune than on us in England.

Mr. Lewes is happily occupied in his psychological studies. We both look forward to the reception of the work you kindly promised us, and he begs me to offer you his best regards.

Believe me, my dear Sir,

Yours with much esteem,

M. E. Lewes.

The Priory, 21, North Bank, Regent's Park,
April 17, '79.

MY DEAR SIE,—Your kind letter has touched me

MY DEAR SIR,—Your kind letter has touched me very deeply. I confess that my mind had more than once gone out to you as one from whom I should like to have some sign of sympathy with my loss. But you were rightly inspired in waiting till now, for during many weeks I was unable even to listen to the letters which my generous friends were continually sending me. Now, at last, I am eagerly interested in every communication that springs out of an acquaintance with my husband and his works.

I thank you for telling me about the Hungarian translation of his 'History of Philosophy,' but what would I not have given if the volumes could have come a few days before his death; for his mind was perfectly clear and he would have felt some joy in that sign of his work being effective. I do not know whether you enter into the comfort I feel that he never knew he was dying, and fell gently asleep

never knew he was dying, and fell gently asleep after ten days of illness in which the suffering was

comparatively mild......
One of the last things he did at his desk was to

One of the last things he did at his desk was to despatch a manuscript of mine to the publishers. The book (not a story and not bulky) is to appear near the end of May, and as it contains some words I wanted to say about the Jews, I will order a copy to be sent to you.

I hope that your labours have gone on uninter-ruptedly for the benefit of others, in spite of public troubles. The aspect of affairs with us is grievous—industry languishing, and the best part of our nation indignant at our having been betrayed into an unjustifiable war (in South Africa).

I have been occupied in editing my husband's MSS., so far as they are left in sufficient completeness to be prepared for publication without the obtrusion of another mind instead of his. A brief volume on 'The Study of Psychology' will appear immediately, and a further volume of psychological studies will follow in the autumn. But his work was cut short while he still thought of it as the happy occupation of far-stretching months. Once more let me thank you for remembering me in my sorrow, and believe me. Yours with high regard cut short while he still thought of it as one cut short while he still thought of it as one cocupation of far-stretching months. Once more let me thank you for remembering me in my sorrow, and believe me Yours with high regard, M. E. LEWES,

## Literary Gossip.

Musurus Pasha, it is said, is going to publish a Greek translation of Dante's Inferno.

MADAME DE NOVIKOFF will contribute an article to the forthcoming number of Fraser on 'A New Departure in Russia.' It will deal with Nihilists, Jews, drinking-shops, and other Russian bugbears. The "new departure" is that initiated by General Ignatief, who has so far departed from the ancient lines that he has summoned to St. Petersburg experts from all parts of Russia, to form, as it were, small parliaments, in which are discussed such problems as the present position of Russia offers. The article will depict the experts assembling and discussing, the ministers listening, the emperor deciding. The writer is of opinion that the reorganization of Russia will be accomplished by the co-operation of Russian democracy with the autocratic Russian

Prof. Sayce has withdrawn his name from the list of candidates for the vacant librarianship of the Bodleian Library, and it is said that Mr. Hatch may possibly follow his example. On the other hand, it is rumoured that Mr. Garnett, of the British Museum, is inclined to stand as a candidate.

MR. W. B. Scott is preparing for publication a new volume of poems.

Messrs. Sampson Low & Co. will shortly publish 'Schwatka's Search: Sledging in

the Arctic in quest of the Franklin Records,' by Mr. W. H. Gilder, second in command. Apart from its interest as an explorer's narrative, it must be regarded as finally settling the question as to the Franklin party. The volume will be profusely illusparty. The volume will be profusely illustrated by Mr. Klutschak, the artist of the expedition.

It is proposed to issue in Dublin at Christmas a new literary and social journal, called Hibernia. In the first number will appear some unpublished speeches by Edmund Burke, delivered at the meetings of a debating society in Dublin to which he belonged in 1747.

UNDER the title 'The Natural Truth of Christianity, Mr. A. Gardner, of Paisley, will shortly issue a volume of extracts from the 'Select Discourses' of John Smith, one of the Cambridge Platonists. The volume, which has been prepared for popular use, will include the magnificent discourse on "The Excellency and Nobleness of True Religion." As an introduction Mr. Matthew Arnold has allowed his own estimate of Smith and his writings to be reprinted. Besides editing the book, the Rev. W. M. Metcalfe will contribute a brief sketch of Smith's life and teaching.

THE number of students matriculated at Cambridge University this year will probably be larger than in any preceding year. Although this increase brings to the university an accession of income, it is attended by corresponding demands for augmentation of expenditure, leaving nothing wherewith to overtake previous deficiencies of provision for the studies of the place. As the Master of Emmanuel College (Dr. Phear) recently

"By paying less to its officers than their work would be worth anywhere else, by most parsi-monious treatment of the library and other institutions, by not erecting buildings which were really necessary, it only just paid its way. Unless the university was able, from sources other than those now at its disposal, to ensure to its best men much safer and larger emoluments than now, it must suffer the loss of some of the ablest of its officers."

By a Grace of the Senate passed at the end of last term, the arrangement previously in force at Cambridge has been so far modified that, instead of a reader specially appointed to superintend the studies of the selected candidates for Indian Civil Service, lecturers of distinction are to be invited to deliver short courses of lectures, open to all members of the university, and directed rather to stimulating the general interest in Indian affairs than to provide for the exigencies of a particular examination. Prof. Max Müller has been chosen by the Board of Historical Studies as the first lecturer for the coming year.

Apropos of the Ben Jonson, the sale of which we mentioned last week, it may interest bibliographers to know that a complete large-paper copy of the first edition is now for the first time discovered. No instance of the sale of the third portion on large paper is chronicled, and it had been supposed not to exist in this state.

THE Figaro announces what it styles "une véritable curiosité littéraire," a short tale written in French by Miss Braddon, which is to appear in the columns of our Parisian contemporary.

Mr. Gomme is compiling for the Biblia-grapher a bibliographical list of works on municipal and local government. Mr. Gomme will have the advantage of using the fine collection of books which belonged to the late Mr. Toulmin Smith, so well known as an authority on local government, and Miss Toulmin Smith has kindly promised her assistance. Why does not England possess a similar institution to the Scottish Burgh Record Society, by which means many very valuable local and municipal records might be published? There is still much to be done in elucidating the history of local self-government, an important subject for modern times.

THE first volume of the 'Origines Celticae,' by the late Dr. Guest, is nearly printed off. The second volume, which will contain a series of articles at present scattered throughout various magazines, will soon follow. The work is printed by the Clarendon Press for Messrs. Macmillan & Co.

THE late Mr. Henty believed that he had discovered a piece of Shakspeare's autobiography in the 'Merry Wives of Windsor.' He saw in the Christian names of William Fenton and Anne Page an allusion to the loves of William Shakspeare and Anne Hathaway, and subsequently, in corroboration of this idea, he found Fenton's wart in Shakspeare's authentic portraits. The article in which this crotchet is elaborated will appear in the December number of the Antiquary.

MESSRS. HANSARD'S monthly list of Parliamentary Papers for October comprises 19 Reports and Papers, and 20 Papers by Command. Among the former we call attention to the numerical and descriptive Index to the Printed Papers of Session 1880; to the Return of Rates of Duty levied on Articles of British Production imported into the Principal European Countries in 1860, 1870, 1875, and 1880; to the Report from the Select Committee on Artisans' and Labourers' Dwelling Improvements; and to the Report, with Evidence and Appendix, from the Select Committee on Railway Fares and Rates of Charges. Among the Papers by Command the most important are the Preliminary Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the Possible Means of preventing Accidents in Mines, with evidence; the Eighth Report of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts, with three parts of appendix; and the Agricultural Returns of Great Britain for 1881.

THE December number of the Nineteenth Century will contain an article by the Rev. Dr. Hermann Adler on 'Recent Phases of Judæophobia.' It will deal with Prof. Goldwin Smith's view of the Jewish question, and with the present deplorable condition of the Jews of Russia.

An edition of the 'Helena' of Euripides for school use, with notes and critical appendix by Mr. C. S. Jerram, will be published by the Clarendon Press early in January next.

THE Palatine Note-Book for December will contain an inquiry after a remarkable quarto MS. volume, five inches thick, containing the lives of English ecclesiastics, &c. It was compiled by Edward Bradshaw, of Manchester, a priest, surnamed the Deaf,

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temp. Elizabeth. The MS. was in 1692 sent to the editor of Dunton's Athenian Mercury, who, wishing to possess it himself, pro-nounced it "of little use to Protestants," and told his correspondent that "if he desired it again-for it's of no use to himlet him call at our bookseller's for it.'

EARLY in January will be issued a history of Hatfield Chace, by Mr. J. Tomlinson.

MR. MONCURE D. CONWAY writes :-

"With reference to the statement in my sketch of Carlyle, which you criticize, that no man hated tyranny more than he, allow me to say that Carlyle did not regard slavery as tyranny. He often said that he desired nothing for the negro that he would not like for himself, and that every man would be better and wiser if he could find a master. While conversing in this strain he would express his detestation of tyranny. I regret that I did not make my meaning clear by saying that no man hated what he conceived to be tyranny more than Carlyle.

But what did Carlyle conceive to be tyranny? Messrs. Hurst & Blackett will publish early in December a work entitled 'My Old Playground Revisited: a Tour in Italy in the Spring of 1881,' by Mr. B. E. Kennedy.

THE Swiss papers record the death of Prof. Jodocus Donatus Hubertus Temme, who has held the chair of Criminal Law at the University of Zürich since his banishment from Prussia for participation in the revolutionary movement of 1848-9. He was widely known in Germany as the author of a "Lehrbuch" of Prussian civil law and other legal writings. Hisnumerous "criminal romances," of which some thirty volumes were published, founded on facts of his own experience, have enjoyed a wide popularity. He was a great authority on the criminal codes of the Swiss cantons.

The posthumous work by the Baron James de Rothschild, entitled 'Les Con-tinuateurs de Loret: Lettres en vers de La Gravette de Mayolas, Robinet, Boursault et Autres' (1665-1689), will appear in six volumes under the editorship of M. Émile Picot. The first volume, which is now ready for publication, was revised by the deceased baron.

THE January number of the new German monthly, Auf der Höhe, edited by Sacher-Masoch, will contain the first instalment of the memoirs of his father, the imperial Austrian Hofrath and Ritter Leopold von Sacher-Masoch, the chief of police in Galicia and Bohemia from 1832 to 1854. The memoirs begin with the writer's recollections of the war in Galicia in 1809, and are continued until the year 1874. They are reported to contain a mass of interesting material regarding historical events and persons.

We have received a prospectus in Sanskrit from Atmaram Kanoba, proprietor of the Ganpat Krishnaji Press at Bombay, of an edition of the 'Siva Purana,' hitherto unpublished, with a commentary by Pandit Rågårâm Såstri of Benares, now teacher of Sanskritin the Elphinstone College, Bombay, and two other Benares pandits. The price to subscribers within two months of October, 1881, is twelve rupees (11 at the present rate of exchange). If the money is not paid in advance, the price will be fifteen rupees, and after publication eighteen rupees. Two rupees will be charged for postage.

According to the Annual Report of the Registrar of Native Publications, Bombay,

for the year 1880, the number of works registered during the year was 980, of which 889 were in Oriental languages, 90 in English, and one in Portuguese. Of the English works the most important was 'The Vicissitudes of Aryan Civilization in India, which received a prize at the Congress of Orientalists held at Florence in 1878. Of the publications in Oriental languages 343 were in Mahrati, 151 in Gujarati, 59 in Sanskrit, 19 in Urdu, and 16 in Arabic. Thirty-five dramas were registered during the year, and 36 works under the head of fiction. Of the latter the most notable was the 'Tales of Rajput Chivalry.'

A PAMPHLET has been circulated this week by Mr. Copland, the agent of the Otago Bible, Tract, and Book Society, which contains a rather amusing correspondence between the author and Mr. Frowde, of the Oxford Warehouse. May 17th was the day fixed for the issue of the revised version of the New Testament, and the Cambridge Press adhered to the agreement. The Oxford Warehouse, however, allowed copies to be shipped for New Zealand by the Cuzco, a steamer leaving on the 11th. The consequence was "bitter disappointment" to Mr. Copland's "clients" at Dunedin, for, while "every bookseller in town" received copies by the Cuzco, Mr. Copland's Society had

#### SCIENCE

A Treatise on Chemistry. By H. E. Roscoe, F.R.S., and C. Schorlemmer, F.R.S. —Vol. III. The Chemistry of the Hydrocarbons and their Derivatives; or, Organic Chemistry. Part I. (Macmillan & Co.)

Ir was formerly the universal practice of chemists to draw a hard-and-fast line between the organic and the inorganic departments of their science. Of late years, however, this line has been gradually growing fainter and fainter, and the distinction, if preserved at all, has come to be regarded as a matter of convenience rather than of philosophical propriety. All modern chemists admit not only that animal and vegetable products contain the same elements as are to be found in compounds of mineral origin, but that they are constituted according to precisely the same laws. The progress of science has shown that certain compounds, formerly regarded as capable of production only under the mysterious influence of vitality, may be artificially built up in our laboratories. Wöhler's famous synthesis of urea was the means of pulling the first bricks out of the wall which formerly separated the domain of the organic from that of the inorganic chemist, and the breach has since been widened to such an extent that it may be fairly doubted whether it is now worth while to recognize the relics of the old partition.

Nevertheless the obvious convenience of dealing separately with the so-called organic compounds over-rides all scientific niceties. Dr. Odling, many years ago, in his excellent 'Outlines of Chemistry,' treated these compounds in direct connexion with his description of carbon, and before introducing the reader to the study of the metallic elements. Yet the great wealth of material which is presented to the student of the carbon compounds renders such a course unsatisfactory; and we think that Profs. Roscoe and Schorlemmer, in carrying on their great treatise, have acted wisely in keeping the organic branch of the science distinct from mineral chemistry.

It is true that certain of the carbon compounds, by reason of the simplicity of their constitution, have been already described in the earlier volumes, thus giving rise to some amount of repetition. Open the present volume, for example, at p. 190, and then turn to p. 607 of vol. i., and you read two accounts of methane, or marsh-gas, in almost the same words. The history, the description, the properties, and the prepara-tion of the gas are given in nearly identical terms-a clear loss of four or five pages.

In selecting a descriptive title for the present portion of their work, the authors have not used the favourite expression— "the chemistry of the carbon compounds," but have preferred to define organic chemistry as "the chemistry of the hydrocarbons and their derivatives." The propriety of such a definition is obvious. Even carbon dioxide may be regarded as a derivative of a hydrocarbon - marsh-gas; though carbon monoxide, the very simplest of all carbon compounds, has, so far as is yet known, no

corresponding hydrocarbon.

Among the many excellent features in this elaborate treatise, the prominence everywhere given to the economical side of the science will be noted with special satisfaction. If a body can claim any importance in the industrial arts the authors are careful to enter into details of its manufacture on a commercial scale; witness their treatment of ethyl alcohol, where they describe the distiller's art. In like manner the subject of acetic acid leads to a description of the manufacture of vinegar, while the mention of the higher fatty acids naturally intro-duces a sketch of the soap-maker's craft.

In turning over the pages of this treatise it is seen that Profs. Roscoe and Schorlemmer work upon a large scale. Here is a volume of more than 700 pages, and yet it is only the first part of the organic portion of the work. The authors are evidently bent on making their book the finest systematic treatise on modern chemistry in the English language, an aim in which they are well seconded by their publishers, who spare neither pains nor cost in illustrating and otherwise setting forth the work of these distinguished chemists.

THE publication of the Subject-Matter Index to the Proceedings and publications of the Institution of Civil Engineers, although it chiefly concerns those who possess the valuable volumes of minutes, or have access to the excellent library, of that Institution, is a literary event which should not be allowed to pass without remark. The technical difficulty which attends on the construction of such an index lies in the limited character of the main branches of study which the profession embraces. Thus in many cases it is in the indication of sub-titles rather than of titles that the skill of the index-maker has to-be shown. "Railways," for example, is a single title, but under it come thirty-two pages of index, requiring very careful work to avoid either obscurity or repetition. 'As far as we have had occasion to consult the new index we find that it aptly answers the questions that we have put to it; and we congratulate Mr. Forrest, the able and untiring secretary of the Institution, upon having been able to put on the shelves of the library so permanent a monument of well-directed literary skill.

#### ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

Mr. Tebbutt has written to the Astronomische Nachrichten (No. 2402), stating that he noticed at Windsor, New South Wales, on the evening of the 17th of September, a small nebulous object in the constellation Libra, which proved to be a comet. It appears, however, not to be a new discovery, but to be identical with the comet discovered by Mr. Schäberle at Ann Arbor, Michigan, U.S., on the 14th of July, which reckons as comet c, 1881. Mr. Tebbutt describes it as being, when he observed it, "destitute of either a nucleus or a tail, but gradually condensed towards the centre." Its place on September 18th was R.A. 14h 28m, N.P.D. 105° 36', agreeing very closely with that assigned in Dr. von Hepperger's ephemeris (Ast. Nach., No. 2390), who anticipated that the comet would be tolerably bright in the southern hemisphere after the perihelion passage, which occurred on August 23rd.

A portion of the first volume of the Annales of the Imperial Observatory at Rio de Janeiro has recently been published under the superintendence of the director, M. Liais. He remarks that he was induced thus to anticipate the publication of the complete volume owing to the near approach of a transit of the planet Mercury over the sun's disc (i.e., that which took place on the 7th of the present month, but was invisible in Europe, and probably best seen in Australia). He was, therefore, very desirous to publish the results of the observations made at Rio of the transit of that planet in May, 1878, and to describe the new method employed there with great success, which will also be applicable on the occasion of the transit of Venus on the 6th of December, 1882, to which so much attention is being directed. It should be mentioned that the enlightened Emperor of Brazil, who is interested in scientific work of every kind, took part himself in the observation of the transit of Mercury on May 6th, 1878. The part now published of the first volume of the Rio de Janeiro observations (the whole of which will, it is hoped, be issued before the end of the current year, and be followed, we trust, by many more) includes an interesting "Note" on the distribution of the small planets between Mars and Jupiter, leading to several new considerations with regard to their connexion with some periodic comets, and the cosmical meteoric bodies for which M. Liais proposes to appropriate the term asteroids. He pays a high tribute to the able co-operation he has lately received in the management of the observatory from M. Cruls, the vice-director. Much good work has already emanated from the observatory since it was practically re-established by the present Emperor, Pedro II., and placed under the direction of M. Liais in 1871; but want of the requisite funds has hitherto prevented the issue of any publications in a separate form.

A third volume of the observations made at the Hungarian Astro-Physical Observatory at O-Gyalla, under the direction of Dr. von Konkoly, consisting of those made in 1880, has just been published. They include spectroscopic observations of comets; spectroscopic and colorimetric observations of fixed stars and planets; observations of solar spots and of the red spot on Jupiter; and observations of small planets, of comets, and of shooting stars and their radiant points.

The number of Sirius (the popular German astronomical periodical edited by Dr. Klein at Cologne) for this month contains a short description, with an engraving, of the fine new observatory recently erected by M. Bischoffsheim near Nice, a locality which the transparency and serenity of the atmosphere render especially suitable for astronomical observations. No expense seems to have been spared in its erection and equipment, and it has been placed under

the direction of M. Perrotin, of whom Dr. Klein well remarks that "Bedeutendes erwartet werden darf." The observatory buildings cover a large extent of ground; the situation is about ten miles to the north-east of the town of Nice.

#### GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

Ir appears almost as if the Belgian African Association intended to withdraw all its explorers from Eastern Africa. At all events, the proposed expedition to Nyangwe, which was to have effected a junction with Stanley on the Lower Congo, has been definitively given up since the death of Capt. Popelin. The only Belgian explorers at present in the interior are M. Becker, in charge of the stores at Tabora, and M. Ramaeckers, at Karema, on the Tanganyika. The steel boat which was forwarded to the latter has been put together, but its engine could not be fitted, as several tubes were lost on the road. Dr. Van den Heuvel, who reached Zanzibar on the 10th of October, now acts as agent of the Association there. M. Roger, the late companion of Capt. Popelin, left that place on the 19th of the same month, with a relay of labourers to replace the men now with Mr. Stanley, whose time will expire in April next.

Capt. Bloyet has been joined at Zanzibar by his wife, and has returned with her to Koa Mgungu, his station in Kondoa, a district of

Jsambara.

The Rev. C. W. Pearson and the Rev. T. G. Litchfield have arrived in France and are daily expected in England. They went out to Uganda at the same time as the Rev. C. T. Wilson and Mr. Felkin, and have, therefore, spent more than two years in Central Africa.

Our contemporary L'Esploratore continues to publish the reports of the agents of the Società d'Esplorazione Commerciale in Africa, who are more especially busy in the Cyrenaica. The last number contains a report on Derna by Signor P. Mamoli, with an excellent plan.

Die Bedeutung der Windrosen, von Dr. Paul Schreiber, is published as Ergänzungsheft 66 of Petermann's Mittheilungen. The author discusses the utility of "wind roses" or "compasses," illustrated by fifteen years' careful observations at Leipzig. The results at which he arrives are shortly these: direction of wind and atmospheric pressure are not primarily interdependent upon each other, but are functions of the climatic condition of a wide region; the temperature of a locality depends primarily upon the direction of a wind, and in a smaller measure upon barometric pressure; the temperature of the wind sinks with the pressure, except during summer; moisture and rain are dependent upon atmospheric pressure, and the popular view of the functions of the barometer is verified in their case by careful scientific observation. Dr. Schreiber's elaborate paper is deserving the attention of meteorologists, and an abstract of it would well suit the pages of the Journal of the Meteorological Society.

Mr. C. Mitchell Grant, an early member of the Anthropological Society, who has spent much time in Siberia, has now become secretary of the Geographical Society of the Pacific, a young and vigorous body organized in San Francisco.

The Californian papers of October 22nd report the return to San Francisco of the United States steamer Thomas Corwin, after a voyage of 169 days along the coast of Northern Alaska. At St. Lawrence island Capt. Hooper found terrible evidence of the wholesale starvation which took place two winters before the last. At the first village at which he landed all were dead. At the second, fifty-four dead bodies were counted, nearly all full-grown males. All the inhabitants on the north side of the island, where whiskey traders sold liquor, were dead, not one having escaped. The total number of dead bodies found on the island was over 600. The survivors say that the natives bought whiskey of the white traders from Honolulu, and get drunk, remain-

ing so during the season for laying in their winter supply of walrus and seal. A severe and stormy winter set in, with ice and snow, and as they had provided no food they first ate their dogs and then died of starvation. This shocking story is worth noting for the light it throws on one means of the extinction of native races. An Indian who has once been intoxicated, it is said, seems disposed to neglect everything to renew the sensation.

Capt. J. W. Fisher, of the American whaler Legal Tender, reached San Francisco at the end of September from Point Barrow, and he reports that in August the ice barrier was over twenty miles north of the point, and was every day moving further northward. The steam whaler Belvidere had gone much further to the east than the rest of the whaling fleet, in an endeavour to reach the Mackenzie river, about 450 miles east of Point Barrow. On her outward voyage the Legal Tender had on board Drs. Arthur and Aurel Krause, who had been sent out by the Bremen Geographical Society to undertake a journey in the coast districts and islands of Bering Strait and Sea, partly for the purpose of investigating the ethnology and marine zoo-logy of Alaska. Capt. Fisher landed them at St. Lawrence Bay, where they were to spend a fortnight, and then proceed to East Cape and the Diomede Islands. On returning to St. Lawrence Bay they proposed to work their way down the Siberian coast to Plover Bay. Capt. Fisher states that Mr. W. H. Dall, of the U.S. Coast Survey, has made a great mistake in his reports respecting the current in Bering Strait. During the whole summer a strong current sets northwards through the strait, and it is only in September or October that northerly winds affect it. Mr. Dall's observations, he says, extended only over a few days, and were made in an eddy current under the lee of the Diomede Islands. Capt. Fisher further reports that off Point Barrow a current of three or four knots an hour sets regularly along the land to the north-east, but it does not extend for fifty miles off the shore.

#### SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Nov. 17.—Mr. W. Spottiswoode, President, in the chair.—The following papers were read: 'Preliminary Note on the Photographic Spectrum of Comet b. 1881,' by Mr. W. Huggins,—'Note on the Reversal of the Spectrum of Cyanogen,' by Profs. Liveing and Dewar,—'The Sum of the Series of the Reciprocals of the Prime Numbers and of their Powers,' by Mr. C. W. Merrifield,—'Further Note on the Minute Anatomy of the Thymus,' by Mr. H. Watney,—'On the Production of Transient Electric Currents in Iron and Steel Conductors,' by Prof. Ewing,—'Experimental Researches on the Propagation of Heat by Conduction in Bone, Brain-tissue, and Skin,' by Dr. Lombard,—'On Allotropic or Active Nitrogen, and on the Complete Synthesis of Ammonia,' by Mr. G. S. Johnson,—'On the Comparative Structure of the Brain in Rodents,' by Mr. W. B. Lewis,—'The Prehensores of Male Butterflies of the Genera Papilio and Ornithoptera,' by Mr. P. H. Gosse,—'On the Propagation of Inhibitory Excitations in the Medulla (blongata,' by Dr. H. Kronecker and Mr. S. Meltzer,—'Researches on Chemical Equivalence,' Parts IV. and V., by Mr. E. J. Mills,—and 'On the Refraction of Plane Polarised Light at the Surface of a Uniaxal Crystal,' by Mr. R. T. Glazebrook.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION,—Nov.16.

—Rev. S. M. Mayhew in the chair.—The discovery of a Roman villa, evidently of considerable extent, at Wingham, Kent, was announced. Aided by a grant from the Kent Society, the villa is being excavated by Mr. Dowker, and already three rooms with tesselated pavements have been uncovered, while a fourth has a hypocaust. Funds are needed for the prosecution of the researches.—Mr. L. Brock also reported the efforts made by the Association with respect to Stonehenge since the meeting there last year, and read a letter from Sir E. Antrobus, the owner, who disclaimed all intention of "restoration" in the works undertaken there by him. These are but for the safety alike of the monument and the visitors. Nothing permanent will be done until the spring.—In the discussion which followed many speakers referred to the somewhat unfair remarks that have been made with respect to the intentions.

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of Sir E. Antrobus, whose efforts to uphold Stonehenge deserve thanks from antiquaries.—Mr. Way
exhibited some mediaval pottery from Southwark;
the Rev. S. Maude a unique denarius of Gallienus with the name of Germanicus on the reverse;
and Mr. R. Soames a drawing of remarkable sculpture in Brixworth Church: it is called an eagle, and
is supposed to have been brought from the Roman
villa which existed close to the building where it is
now built into one of the walls.—Mr. G. R. Wright
exhibited some drawings of Mulgrave Castle, Yorkshire, and described some of its curious windows. exhibited some drawings of Mulgrave Castle, York-shire, and described some of its curious windows.— The first paper was 'On the Bourg ez Ziffur, Cairo, by Prof. H. Lewis. This is one of the angle bastions of the wall of Cairo, now almost covered by sand, It has an octagonal central chamber, 26 ft. in diameter, formed of recently cut stone. It dates probably from the time of Saladin.—Mr. J. W. Grover, in the discussion which followed, alluded to the overgrape of the pointed grap in a dayslowed. Grover, in the discussion which followed, alluded to the appearance of the pointed arch in a developed state here, and to the magnificent museum of Egyptian antiquities at Boulak.—The second paper was by Mr. G. M. Hills, and was on the measurements of Ptolemy applied to the northern part of Britain. He identified Hornsea Lake, east coast of Yorkshire, as Ptolemy's Portus Sinus, and Penrith as the starting-point of the tenth Iter. Salava, the second station, he placed at Gallaber, near Tebay.

NUMISMATIC.—Nov. 17.—Dr. J. Evans, President, in the chair.—Mrs. Bagnall-Oakley and Messrs. E. K. Burstal, W. Dawson, J. Jennings, W. Lees, and J. Doyle-Smithe were elected members.—Mr. Krambholz exhibited proofs in silver of the Prusian silver coinage of 1867, a Roumanian marks of 1874, a restruck Brazilian dollar, and a specimen of the Hamburg Jubilee medal of 1803.—Mr. J. J. Nunn exhibited a groat of Henry VI. with a mark resembling the Arabic numeral 4 after the king's name.—Mr. Vaux exhibited a gold medal bearing the name of the Society for the Translation of Oriental Literature, which he supposed to have been presented by William IV. to Prof. H. H. Wilson,—Canon Pownall exhibited, on behalf of Dr. Frazer, of Dublin, two base testoons Prof. H. H. Wilson.—Canon Pownall exhibited, on behalf of Dr. Frazer, of Dublin, two base testoons of Edward VI., one with the mint-mark on both sides, a harp, 1552, found in Ireland, the other, very rare, with the lion mint-mark. The first of these coins is counter-marked with the greyhound, according to the proclamation of Elizabeth (September 27th, 1560). Canon Pownall also exhibited three base testoons of Edward VI. from his own cabinet, we begin the bedt mint-mark 1549 counter. base testoons of Edward VI. from his own cabinet, one having the bolt mint-mark, 1549, countermarked with a portcullis, as ordered by a subsequent proclamation of Queen Elizabeth (October 9th, 1560), and two with the harp mint-mark and Lombardic lettering, weighing respectively 67 and 555 grs. These have been submitted to assay by Messrs. Johnson, Matthey & Co., of Hatton Garden, and found to contain up silver in any appreciable. and found to contain no silver in any appreciable quantity, and to consist chiefly of tin and copper. With reference to these coins Canon Pownall quoted quantity, and to consist enemy of the and copper. With reference to these coins Canon Pownall quoted an extract from King Edward's diary, under date June 10th, 1552, as follows:—"Whereas it was agreed [£.o. on May 18th above] that there should be a pay now made to Ireland of 5,000£, and then the money to be cried down, it was appointed that 3,000 weight which I had in the Tower should be carried thither and coined at three denar fine, and that incontinent the coin should be cried down." Canon Pownall remarked that if his majesty did not mistake as to his "three denar fine" this was a coinage infinitely more base than any ever before devised, three parts only in 240 (according to the usual mode of estimating the fineness of silver by the pound weight) being fine, but that, whatever may have been the fineness of the coins, the manner of conducting the fineness of the coins, the manner of conducting the fineness of the coins, the manner of conducting the fineness of the coins, the manner of Japan from A.D. 708 to the present time.

STATISFICAL.—Nov. 15.—Mr. J. Caird, President, in the chair.—The subject of Mr. Caird's opening address was the 'British Land Question.—The Society's Howard Medal of 1881 was presented to Dr. F. Pollard, of Liverpool, for his essay on 'Jail Tever.'

LINNEAN.—Noc. 17.—Sir J. Lubbock, Bart, in the chair.—The meeting having been made special, Sir J. Kirk was elected into the Council, and Mr. F. Crisp elected Treasurer, to replace Mr. F. Currey.—Mr. G. Murray exhibited (for Col. Turberville) a bough of Pinus pinaster with suppressed internodes of the lateral branches, the result of injury to the axis from which they sprung.—Dr. F. Day showed examples of the stomachs of the pilchard with special reference to their digestion. These fishes come in shore on the Cornish coast towards night to feed, when they are netted. Examination shortly after reveals the zoës stage of crustaceans to be their chief food. While this lies loosely in portions of the stomach, at the pyloric

division it appears to be enclosed within a sac, or sausage-shaped envelope. Microscopic examination proves the sac to be a cast-off lining of the stomach walls. What purpose it serves in the economy of digestion is uncertain, though it bears resemblance to the sac vomited by hornbills during incubation.—Mr. R. J. Lynch exhibited and read a note on the contrivance for self-fertilization in Roscoca purpurea. Here, as in Salvia, a lever specialized from the anther, with the filament acting as a fulcrum, brings the pollen in contact with insects entering the flower.—Sir J. Lubbock read his ninth communication 'On Ants, Bees, and Wasps.' He commenced by detailing some experiments made with a view of ascertaining not only whether bees could distinguish one colour from another, but also whether they preferred certain colours. Under precisely similar conditions he placed drops of honey on papers of different colours, having accustomed marked bees to come to the spot for food. He then placed these pieces of paper on a lawn. When the bee returned and had sipped the honey for about a quarter of a minute he division it appears to be enclosed within a sac, or the spot for food. He then placed these pieces of paper on a lawn. When the bee returned and had sipped the honey for about a quarter of a minute he removed it. She then flew to a second colour; this he took away. Then she went to a third, and so on. In this manner he induced her to visit all the drops successively; and, by recording a large number of observations, he ascertained for which colour the bees showed a preference. The result was that the bee seemed to like blue much better than the other colours. It may be asked why it is that if blue is the favourite to like blue much better than the other colours. It may be asked why it is that, if blue is the favourite colour of bees, and if bees have so much to do with the origin of flowers, there should be so few blue ones. He suggests the explanation to be that all flowers were originally green, and then passed through white or yellow, and generally red, before becoming blue.—Mr. C. B. Clarke brought to notice a Hampshire orchis not figured in English botany. It is pale flesh-coloured, and allied to O. latifolia, but with denser cylindric spike. He proves it to be the true O. incarnata, Linn., that described by Syme and Babington under this name being the O. latifolia, Linn.—Prof. Cobbold described a new Entozoon from the ostrich, named by him Strongylus from the ostrich, named by him Strongylus Douglasii. It is said to prove destructive to ostrich chicks at Grahamstown and elsewhere in South Africa. It somewhat resembles certain free nema-Africa. It somewhat restodes, but bears few eggs.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Nov. 15.—Prof. W. H. Flower, President, in the chair.—The Secretary read a Report on the additions made to the menagerie between June and October.—Prof. Newton exhibited a specimen of Emberica rustica recently shot on the coast of Yorkshire.—Canon Tristram exhibited and made remarks shire.—Canon Tristram exhibited and made remarks upon skins of a Darter and a Pigmy Cormorant, procured in June of this year on the Lake of Antioch.—Mr. Sclater exhibited a specimen of the Glossy Ibis (Pleyadis falcinellus), belonging to Sir H. Mildmay, Bart., which had been shot in Hampshire, in September last.—Letters and communications were read: from MM. L. Taczanowski and J. Stolzmann on the habits and regions of the rear huming bid. and various plumages of the rare humming-bird Loddigesia mirabilis, —from M. L. Taczanowski on two nearly allied species of humming-birds of the two nearly allied species of humming-birds of the genus Steganura from Peru, and on a new species of Mustela from North-eastern Peru, which he proposed to call Mustela Stolzmanni,—by Mr. W. A. Forbes on the structure of the palate in the Trogons (Trogonidæ), and on the systematic position of Eupetes macrocereus,—from Mr. E. P. Ramsay on the true habitat of Pycnoptius flocoosus, Gould,—from Mr. E. L. Layard on the South African mollusk Cæliaxis E. L. Layard on the South African mollusk Celiaxis Layardi of Augas,—from Mr. E. A. Smith on the shells of the genus Chilina, with a list of the known species,—by Mr. A. G. Butler on some butterflies from Japan, with which were incorporated notes and descriptions of new species by Mr. M. Fenton,—and by Mr. H. J. Elwes on the butterflies of Amoorland, Japan, and Northern China.

CHEMICAL.—Nov. 17.—Dr. Gilbert in the chair.—
It was announced that a ballot for the election of Fellows would take place at the next meeting, December 1st.—The following papers were read: Aluminium Alcohols, Part II. Their Products of Decomposition by Heat, by Messrs. J. H. Gladstone and A. Tribe,—'On the Chemical Action of Decomposing Vegetable Matter on the Rock-forming Sediment of the Carboniferous Period,' by Mr. E. O'Sullivan,—'On and Amylam,' by Mr. C. O'Sullivan,—'On the Action of Oxides on Salts, Part IV. Potassic Chlorate and Ferric Oxide,' by Messra. E. J. Mills and G. Donald,—and 'On the Steeping of Barley,' by Messrs. E. J. Mills and J. Pettigrew.

METEOBOLOGICAL.—Nov. 16.—Mr. G. J. Symons, President, in the chair.—Twenty-seven gentlemen were elected Fellows.—An account of the gale of October 13th-14th, by Messrs. G. J. Symons and C. Harding, was read. The storm formed in the Atlantic, about 150 miles south of Nova Scotia, on October 10th, and at noon on the 13th there was a consider-

able disturbance about 600 miles west of Galway. At that time there were scarcely any instrumental indications in the British Isles of the coming storm; the barometer was falling at Valentia, but not rapidly, and at some of the western English stations it was rising. The curves of barometric fluctuation show the advance of the depression from west to east, for while at Valentia the minimum occurred at 2 A.M. on the 14th, on the east coast of Norfolk it did not occur till 4 P.M. This fact, coupled with others, seems to indicate an easterly progression of the barometric minimum at nearly forty miles per hour. As far as the sea is concerned, the chief force of the gale was felt on the afternoon of the 14th, in the German Ocean, and there the great loss of life and destruction to shipping seem mainly due to exceptionally violent squalls. The afternoon became quite darkened by the salt water blown into the air. The area over which injury was produced was singularly large, although not without precedent. The damage to buildings over the greater part of the country was by no means unprecedented, and in the greater part of Ireland and the south-west of England was not even of an unusual character, but along the east coast and in the east midlands it was excessive, and on the north-east coast unprecedented.—Mr. J.W. Peggs read a paper 'On the Structural Damage caused by the Gale as indicative of Wind Force.'

caused by the Gale as indicative of Wind Force.'

MICROSCOPICAL.—Nov. 9.—Mr. J. W. Stephenson, V.P., in the chair.— Eight new Fellows were elected.

—The Rev. J. J. Halley, Vice-President of the Microscopical Society of Victoria, gave an account of the progress of biology and microscopy in that colony.—Mr. Stephenson exhibited a slide of Surirella gemma mounted in phosphorus, illustrating in a remarkable manner the advantage of mounting in media of high refractive index.—Messrs. Crisp, Crossley, and Watson exhibited various forms of microscopes and apparatus, and Mr. Mayall an Abbe apertometer of dense glass for measuring apertures up to 1:50 N.A. and a plate ruled by Fasoldt, of New York, who claims to be able to rule lines up to 1:000,000 in the inch.—The deaths of M. Nachet, sen., of Paris, and Mr. C. A. Spencer, of Geneva, N.Y., were announced.—Two papers were read,—by Dr. B. W. Richardson, 'On Multiple Staining of Animal and Vegetable Tissues,' and by Dr. L. G. Mills, 'On Diatoms from Peruvian Guano.'—Mr. T. C. White exhibited and explained Godwin's growing slide.

Philological.—Nov. 18.—Mr. A. J. Ellis, President, in the chair.—Prince L. L. Bonaparte concluded his paper 'On the Simple Sounds of all the Living Slavonic Languages compared with those of the principal Neo-Latin and Germanic Tongues.'—A short discussion followed.—Mr. B. Dawson read A short discussion followed.—Mr. B. Dawson reachis Notes on the n of an, &c., in the Authorized and Revised Versions of the Bible. The object was to determine what principle settled whether the contracted or uncontracted forms of the words an, contracted or uncontracted be used before words. contracted or incontracted forms of the words an, none, mine, thine, should be used before words beginning with h in the Authorized Version. The strange variety in the use of the two forms an, a; none, no; mine, my; thine, thy, was shown by statistics. From more than fifteen hundred passtatistics. From more than fifteen hundred passages collected for this purpose it appeared that an half occurred eight times, a half five times; that hand was preceded by an seven times, by mine forty-three, and my forty-nine times, by thine ninety-seven, and thy forty-three times; the word heart was preceded by an three, and by a three times; by mine thirty, and my fifty-two times; by thine fifty-two, and thy eighteen times. The only word which never varied was an hundred. The main reason for these variations was that the translators of the Authorized Version took one phrase from one version and another from another without. lators of the Authorized Version took one phrase from one version and another from another without. In the Revised Version of the New Testament (partially examined) these words were invariably used in their contracted form, a, no, my, thy, according to the usage of the present day, except in two passages. Before words beginning with a vowel both forms were used, c.g., none occasion, mine answer and my oxen. The relative which, when referring to persons, had been sometimes changed to who, sometimes to that, but more generally retained. Similarly the revisers vacillated between thence and from thence, whence and from whence, and no satisfactory explanation was observable for their changes or retentions. From observable for their changes or retentions. From these and other minor matters of style it was evident that the translation had been made piecemeal, and had not enjoyed general editorial superin-

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Nov. 22.—Mr. Abernethy, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'On the Forces and Strains of Recoil considered with reference to the Elastic Field-Gun Carriage,' by Mr. H. J. Butter.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Nov. 16.—Sir F. Bramwell, Chairman of the Council, delivered the opening

address of the session, and subsequently presented the medals and certificates awarded during the past session.—Seventy-two candidates were proposed for election as Members.

election as Members.

Nov. 21.—The first lecture of the first course of
Cantor Lectures was delivered by Mr. T. Bolas, the
subject being 'Some of the Industrial Uses of the
Calcium Compounds.'

Nov. 23.—Prof. Adams in the chair.—Seventeen

candidates were proposed for election as Members.

—A paper 'On the Storage of Electricity' was read by Prof. S. Thompson, and was illustrated by numerous experiments.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon. Institute of Actuaries, 7.—'Transformation of Annuities and Annuity Values Payable Yearly into the like when Payable in Fractional Intervals of a Yearly Means of Constant Factors, Mr. J. D. M. G. M'Kenzie.

Mr. J. D. M. G. M'Kenzie.

Royal Academy, 8.—'Demonstrations,' Mr. J. Marshall.

Society of Arts. S.—'Some of the Industrial Uses of the Calcium Compounds,' Lecture II. Mr. T. Holas (Cantor Lecture).

Geographical. 18.—'Some of the Industrial Uses of the Calcium Compounds,' Lecture III. Mr. T. Holas (Cantor Lecture).

Geographical. 8.—'Three Years' Observations on Lake Tangan-Group Mr. S.—'New Species of Eclectus from the Timerland Strains of Recoil in the Elastic Field-Gun Carlage.'

Zoological, 8.—'New Species of Eclectus from the Timerland Islands, Dr. A. B. Meyer; 'Note on the Genera Schenchola and Cartiacus,' and 'Description of a New Species of Anolis from Yucatan, Mr. G. A. Boulenger: 'Observations on the special regard to the alleged Increase of Temperature during that Process, Mr. W. A. Forbe.

Wen. Royal, 4.—Anniversary Meeting.

Boyal Academy, 8.—'Demonstrations,' Mr. J. Marshall.

Society of Arts, 8.—'Distribution of Time by a System of Pneu-Tanga, Archeological Institute, 4.

Chemical, 8.—Election of Fellows.

Linnean, 8.—Homology of the Conario-hypophysial Tract, or the so-called Pineal and Pituitary Glands,' Prof. Owen, 'Foliation of Endoless archeological Institute, 4.

Chemical, 8.—Election of Fellows.

Linnean, 8.—Homology of the Conario-hypophysial Tract, or the so-called Pineal and Pituitary Glands,' Prof. Owen, 'Foliation of Endoless archeological Institute, 4.

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Antiquaries, 84.—'Carved Stone from a Jain Temple in India, Mr. H. S. Ashbee; 'British Mounca' in Crupinal Parish,' Rev. E. Mooro.

Philogical, 8.—'Anglo-Stone Per-Names,' Mr. J. Platt; 'Observations on the Society' Partial Corrections of English Spelling, Mr. H. J. Vogin; 'Some Articles from the Society's English Dictionary,' Dr. Murray,' Society of Arts' Patent Dill.

#### Science Gossig.

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK'S presidential address before the British Association at York will shortly be reissued by Messrs. Macmillan & Co., with the author's latest corrections and additions

THE Earl of Mount Edgeumbe has been elected President of the Royal Institution of Cornwall, the chair having been vacated by the Bishop of Truro on Monday, the 14th. Mr. Leonard H. Courtney, M.P., Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, has been elected President of the Royal Geological Society of Cornwall.

MR. WILLIAM CROOKES, F.R.S., whose interesting researches on the action of matter in extreme vacuo are well known, has devised a method for the manufacture of carbons for electric lamps. The processes described would occupy too much space, but the result is carbon entirely free from any inorganic ash, and the production of a vacuum of the most perfect kind, in which the luminous carbons will last much longer than in the vacuum obtained in the ordinary way.

MESSRS. LEWIS AND KIRKHOUSE, of the Treherbert Engineering Company, have patented a new apparatus for watering the roadways in collieries. Many of our readers will be surprised at our calling attention to this. The fact is it has been discovered that coal-dust is a most serious element in the destructive action of firedamp in colliery explosions, and that it is more important to water the dust in the colliery roads than it is to lay the dust in surface roads.

Mr. J. H. Collins recently communicated to the Royal Institution of Cornwall a memoir 'On the Geological Age of Central and West Cornwall,' which is printed in the Journal of the Institution, Part I. for 1881. In this paper it is sought to prove that the country southward and westward of the Bodmin granite is composed of no fewer than four distinct rocks of very different ages, and not of two kinds only, as shown in the Geological Survey maps.

MADAME Broca has instituted a prize to be given by the Society of Anthropology of Paris in memory of her husband. The publication of the

last memoir written by him (on torsion of the humerus and on the tropometer, an instrument for measuring the torsion of bones) is completed in the current number of Dr. Topinard's Revue d'Anthropologie. It includes tables drawn up by Broca and by M. L. Manouvrier of measurements of the angle of torsion in man and other animals, from which the following conclusions are drawn :- that it attains its maximum in the human species; that the negro is intermediate, in this respect as in many others, between the superior races of man and the anthropoids, some races of Oceania being, indeed, inferior to the negro in this respect; that the transition from man to the greater anthropoids is insensiblethe smallest angle observed in the human species descending even below the smallest angle measured in sixteen humerus bones of the gorilla; that the angle is greater in the gorilla than in the other large anthropoids, and greater in them than in the small monkeys; that the transition from these latter to the carnivora is again almost insensible; that the angle is very large in the ostrich; and that it is almost universally greater in the left humerus than in the

M. Tomması drew the attention of the Academy of Sciences on November 7th to a matter which promises some important results. He has been studying the action of cold on voltaic arcs. He used as rheophores U tubes of copper placed horizontally and opposite each other, through which ran cold water. Under these conditions the luminous power of the electric arc is considerably weakened and it is rendered very unstable. It does not ignite paper held 0 004 mètre above it; it is attracted and extinguished by a magnet. More ozone is formed than when the arc is not cooled.

PROF. VIRCHOW was honoured by a banquet in the Rathhaus at Berlin on the 19th inst. the same day a marble bust of the professor was placed in the hall of the Pathological Institute in commemoration of his twenty-five years' labours as a teacher of medical science. At the same time a fund, to be called the Rudolph Virchow foundation, was formed by subscription, for the promotion of scientific investigations which will increase our knowledge of man.

A NEW society founded in Japan for the investigation of volcanic and earthquake phenomena, and called the Seismological Society of Japan, has just issued the first volume of its Transactions (Yokohama, Japan Gazette Office). This contains an inaugural address by Prof. Milne, the Vice-President of the Society, in which the results of past investigation into seismic phenomena are mentioned and the future work of the Society mapped out. New instruments for recording the direction and intensity of earthquake shocks form the subjects of papers by Messrs. Gray, Ewing, and Wagner. The most important, as well as longest, paper in the volume is one by Mr. Milne on an earthquake which took place in the neighbourhood of Tokio on February 22nd, 1880, and which seems to have been the most severe and destructive experienced since the country was opened to foreign intercourse. At the time of this occurrence instruments for observing had fortunately been established at many places within the area of the shock; the native police and other officials also communicated their own observations as to the time, direction, &c., of the earthquake. The number of records, scientific and otherwise, at the writer's disposal were, therefore, numerous, and he has been able to give the history of an earthquake from the sudden jar which gave it birth until, spreading outwards in ever widening circles, its energy and motion were dissipated. Mr. Milne's observations on the effects of earthquakes on buildings and the manner in which houses should be constructed in order best to resist the shocks are of much practical importance in earthquake countries. On the whole, the Society may be said to have made an excel-

lent start. It is gratifying to see some of the science which Japan has borrowed from the West returned to us in this form.

The Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Registrars of Victoria for the quarter ending June 30th inform us that 79,779 czs. 10 dwts. of gold were obtained from alluvial deposits and 127,010 ozs. 8 dwts. from the quartz reefs.

M. J. Domeyko, in the Annales des Mines, states that Bolivia is the richest of all countries in bismuth. The ores found are sulphides, oxides, and metallic ores, the last usually associated with tellurium, gold, and silver.

#### FINE ARTS

THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of WATER COLOUR DRAWINGS IS NOW OPEN AT THOMAS McLEAN'S Gallery, 7. Haymarket, next door to the Theatre.—Admission, including fac-

DORÉ'S GREAT WORKS, 'CHRIST LEAVING the PRETORIUM.' CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM,' and 'MOSES before PHARAOH,' sach 33 by 22 fest, with 'Ecce Homo,' 'The Ascension,' 'Dream of Plute's Wife.' 'soldiers of the Cross.' 'A Day Dream,' &c., at the DORS GALLERY, '35, New Bond Street. Daily, 'Ten to Sig.—18.

Decoration and Furniture of Town Houses. By R. W. Edis. Illustrated. (Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.)

This book is an "amplified and enlarged" edition of a series of Cantor Lectures delivered in 1880 by a well-known and able architect before the Society of Arts. Unlike most of the ladies and gentlemen who have treated of "art at home" and "art in the house," Mr. Edis knows a great deal about his subject; he has written often and carefully about it, he has mastered its history under many phases, he has practical knowledge of the construction of houses, and possesses that feeling, or acquired sense, of the direction of the current of modern taste which a skilled and popular architect must needs obtain in the course of his professional career. On the other hand, it is no paradox to say that architectural studies do not necessarily fit a man to become a prophet in respect to the decorating and furnishing of a town or any other house. Such studies make him aware of the deficiencies of other people, but they do not of themselves enable him to do better than his unlucky neighbours. An architect's furniture is likely to be architectural rather than comfortable; architects are but too apt to exhibit lordly disregard of the purses of their employers, or, as they prefer to style them, their clients; finally, it does not at all follow that the art of constructing a building and decorating its construction is particularly applicable to chairs and tables, curtains and carpets. The number of decorators-a term here used in its better sense-who, without pretending to be architects, have produced good furniture, is quite equal to that of the architects who have pretended to be decorators and yet produced hideous and, what is worse, most uncomfortable furniture. A good surgeon might give a hint or two about dress to an intelligent tailor, and yet be but an indifferent cutter out of garments.

Two things impede the success of a decorative prophet: first, the terror most men feel at changing furniture that is bad for what may be worse; second, the costliness of changes of this sort. Mere ignorance of beauty ought not to count among the obstacles to be overcome, because that defect is at least counterbalanced by those tendencies

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of the human mind which are manifest in the most squalid houses, and in country ottages, where scraps of old wall-papers re thought worthy of framing, although, or rather because, all around is bald and grey. It is, in fact, the excess of the decorative passion that puzzles the teacher, and needs to be curbed. The costliness of changes in "the decoration and furniture of town houses" is a more serious betacle. On this point we are at issue obstacle. On this point we are at issue with Mr. Edis and his able forerunner Mr. Eastlake, whose 'Household Taste' we sviewed some years ago, and also with that ingenious amateur the author of the Recreations of a Country Parson,' whose incum "Taste costs nothing" is quoted by Mr. Edis with approval. To change is costly per se, unless changes are to be made piecemeal and when "old things" wear out -a sort of progress which, as Mr. Edis says, is fatal to "fitness, proportion, and harmony of design and colouring." We prefer his other dictum:-

"It is not to be supposed that any true knowledge of decoration, and real feeling for things
satistic, can be obtained all at once; it is only
by a constant study of nature, and of the really
beautiful things of art, that the eye becomes
succeed to understand and appreciate beauty
of form, outline, and colour."

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Our author and Mr. Ruskin are right in

"absolute truth must be the foundation of all good work, that all ornament should consist of [Pexist in] the enrichment of the real confruction of the building, that this should in itself be beautiful, and that decoration itself should not be constructed for mere purposes of show and effect."

By the faithful observance of these fundamental principles of taste-without which there is no taste—the noble schools of decoraton have been distinguished from the ignoble mes, the rational from the irrational, the intelligent from the idiotic.

How is the eye to be "educated to underand and appreciate beauty of form, outline, and colour "? That is the difficulty. The aswer is not less hard to find, although the saw that "there is no disputing about natters of taste" is falser than most saws. Even in matters of tattooing, men and mations start from very different principles. A maked native of Guiana will enrich his own skin of a "dead gold" hue with chain-like lines of pale blue, which approximate to, or separate from, each other exactly as the varying contours of his body dictate; while a South Sea Islander will adore the Gods of Ugliness by a confusion of bars, strokes, spirals, spots, and dashes on his hide of maty black.

How, then, are we to obtain this "beauty of form, outline, and colour," which in-dudes that perfect fitness to function which is after all, the main essential of fine design in decoration and of all art whatever? Pace Mr. Edis it is certain that "taste costs, not othing, but a very great deal." We must, in act, earn taste ourselves, or for its use pay ome one who, like Mr. Edis, has earned it. We must, or should, "educate ourselves, and acquire that true knowledge of decoraion and real feeling for things artistic"
thich he desiderates. Without this we
hall never at best attain more than the
timitive, though logical, feeling for beauty

which the blue-striped native of Guiana manifests on his golden skin, but on no other of his surroundings.

It is because it neglected the fundamental rules quoted above that the most popular art of the last hundred years, that of the French Renaissance and its numerous branches, is proved to be vicious. The truth is that since the corruption of Gothic design in that country the architectural and decorative arts of France have all been more or less debased. "Pretty but barbarous" must be the verdict on the best of these manifestations. Worst of all is the style of Louis Quatorze. To it we owe the foolish festoons, the broken pediments, the costly and unmeaning sculpture, the silly scrolls and "fiddle-string twiddlings" which pervade the upholstery Mr. Edis and his friends execrate so heartily. need hardly say that it was a necessity of our author's case as such that he should attempt to prove the incapacity of decorating practitioners who immediately preceded him. He abuses them with a vigour which is quite superfluous and rather undignified. Those who are likely to sit at Mr. Edis's feet have already escaped from the Egyptian darkness of fifty years ago, if darkness it was. But it is evident that what our author assails so vigorously is not the finer illustrations of the taste of our fathers and mothers, but the productions of the vulgar rich of their time, the very class whose descendants in our own days he would educate off the face of the earth. Of the need of such education there can be no question. But it is not by declaring that "taste costs nothing" that he will make such education popular. It is painfully obvious that Mr. Edis

cannot venture to cater for people whose "circumstances" do not amount to at least two thousand a year. For example, he admits that-

"if the narrowness of worldly circumstances prevents us from having figure decorations in our rooms, we may still have, in distemper or other media, panels of coloured decoration of birds or other natural objects, treated simply and inex-pensively, so as to come within the means of all.' Now this is very pretty and good advice, but will Mr. Edis name an artist or student who, for a moderate fee, will paint "in dis-temper or other media" on our walls, and therefore, of course, for the benefit of our landlord, any "birds or other natural objects"? Here, as in countless other cases in this book, we are compelled to lament the costliness which is in itself a contradiction to the dic-tum that "taste costs nothing." The fact is that taste, like everything worth having, must be paid for, and if we really care for art we shall be willing to pay for it. So long as London houses emit smoke from every one of their chimneys there is no need to ask why we do not "apply the teaching of old Italian artists, who covered with distemper decorations the exteriors of their houses." Mr. Edis's audience in the Adelphi must have felt that they were being trifled with when they applauded an allusion to Italian practices and remembered

examples which show the practical value of the counsel Mr. Edis gives. His arrangement of his subject shows the author's tact, and suits the convenience of his readers. After some general advice, the first lecture quotes examples of the defects of modern taste, illustrates the usefulness and suitability of good design in furniture, attempts to prove that good design is not costly, and mentions examples of excellent furniture. To one sentence at the end of this section exception must be taken; Gothic art certainly did not adopt "accident, character, and eccentricity" as its essentials. How Mr. Edis, knowing what he must know, could, without qualifications, hazard this statement passes comprehension.

The following sections deal seriatim with the various modes and materials of decoration applied to floors, walls, and ceilings, and enlarges on the use of mosaics, tiles, and parquetry. Furniture is the subject of the next chapter. The writer condemns, root and branch, the extravagance and baseness of the furniture of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and quotes with approval what he, oddly enough, calls the "exhaustive history of furniture" of M. Jacquemart. "Common sense," he remarks, "in house decoration and furnishing has not yet been arrived at by the majority of the public. They are content to accept advice in most important matters, but imagine that they can, without help, furnish and decorate their homes, and in matters of taste believe that they have as much a right to have an opinion as the skilled professional artist."

On this theme our author enlarges with a zest which must have touched the hearts of his hearers in the Adelphi.

As to the living rooms of a house, "Let furniture be comfortable, and keep out the dust," is a wise maxim, much insisted on by Mr. Edis; but how is it that he, who will not allow a speck of dust on the tops of our wardrobes—surely it is out of harm's way there!—advises us to use matting for the dados of bedrooms, although flock papers are denied to our walls?

About paper-hangings, after much sound advice on what is better to use or avoid, we have one of the best passages in the book :-

"Any pattern or design which shows pro-minently any set pattern, or spots which suggest a sum in multiplication, or which, in the halflight of day or early morning, might be likely to fix themselves upon the tired brain, suggestto nx themselves upon the tired brain, suggesting all kinds of weird forms, are especially to be avoided. The design should be of such a description that, saving as regards colours, it should offer no specially marked pattern. I have seen various designs for papers of high artistic character, but in which flights of birds or rows of conventional flowers stood out in bold realist suggesting ideas of counting are bold relief, suggesting ideas of counting, or dreaming thoughts, or restlessness, which, to an over-tired or restless brain, soon bring utter wakefulness."

In the haste of speech or writing many older men than our lecturer have diverged from the right line on matters which are beyond their proper ken. This book is not free from the results of such departures, yet they are few in number, and the most unfortunate of them is that which occurs on p. 77. Mr. Edis condemns Hogarth and Cruikshank because they gave us what it pleases the author to call "caricatures." It

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is patent to every one that Hogarth was not, and never intended to be, a decorative painter. He was a great artist, who—alas that it should be so!—did not in any degree "caricature" nor "exaggerate" the manners and vices of his times. Mr. Edis is not more kind to Cruikshank than to Hogarth, and in both cases his censure is unjust.

SEA PICTURES AT THE FINE-ART SOCIETY'S GALLERY, NEW BOND STREET.

"ILL blows the wind that profits nobody" is the motto of the most important work in this attractive exhibition, Mr. Hook's latest production, a work powerful in tone and rich in tint. It is a coast view. The surges and cumuli are driven by a steady breeze to a low promontory where a sailor and a girl are hauling wreckage of timber to the land. The most striking effect of the wind is shown in the lofty waves in the foreground, that plunge and draw back again. On them the artist has expended his best skill. He never painted anything better than the often-changing surface, which seems to slide and rise and fall, and to move in ridges and furrows without end. The slaty rocks are covered with richly coloured weeds. tant landscape is perfect in tone and colour, and as it is seen through the clear air it is exquisitely graded. Mr. Hook's other contributions are already known to our readers; they include the cliff scene called Mushroom Seekers. The sapphire-like sea in this picture is almost level, yet white rings spreading from the rocks mark its slow, pulse-like rise and fall, for, as with Wordsworth's clouds, it all moves together where it moves at all. The Crabbers will be remembered as a picture of two fishermen in a boat on a rough sea; of them one has just brought a crab-pot from its rocky bed, and pulls out its angry inmate. His companion keeps the boat's head to the waves.

Artistic eyes will recognize the learning and the power that are shown in a group of sea pictures by Mr. Henry Moore. Of these, Out-side the Harbour is, if not the finest and most pathetic where all are fine and pathetic, the most attractive and impressive. A dismasted and shattered wreck, waterlogged and aban-doned, lies stranded with its keel towards the sea. The white waves, whose tremendous weight has been indicated with rare mastery, leap over its decks and search the hull com A wilderness of foam and broken water encloses the ship. In this and in the sky is to be found some of the finest painting the artist has given us. Yet the grandeur of the forces represented in this picture is less impressive than the solemn effect of Salmon Poachers, where all is still, and a bright day closes in serene twilight on the sea. All the pictures of Mr. Moore are marked by dignified motives, a feeling for colour that is worthy of an old master, extraordinary knowledge of nature, and consummate technical skill. Especial praise is due to The Way to the Mussel Rocks, figures trudging along a spit of purple sand between the sea and a salt pool, the whole under a deliciously painted sky. There is, in addition, a lovely little coast view of waves breaking in the purple sands of a curving and steep beach, sending before them a wide fringe of foam of splendid white, the drawing and foreshortening of which are by no means to be overlooked.

Besides his well-known Cornish Lions and Sandy Shallows, a picture of sunset which was lately at the Academy, Mr. Brett has lent to the Fine-Art Society nearly fifty pictures, large and small included, some of them sketches made in a day, and others of them highly finished. Of the latter and more important class one is worthy to be ranked high among his works, if, indeed, it is not his masterpiece. This view is called

Summer Sunset among the Hebrides, and has in front the sea, where large ripples move but hardly break; beyond the mid-distance peaks of rocks stand like islands against the sky, more pinnacles are behind and mark the ocean. The rays of the setting sun spread like a fan from the horizon upwards; a vessel in full sail steals through the rising mist, which is, as yet, low and pale blue. This is a very fine example indeed; its charms are the sentiment of the subject, the exquisite gradations of the air, the solidity and true modelling of the water, rocks, and sky, and the tender iridescence of that prevailing colour which may be called nacreous. The smaller pictures depict nature in sandy bays, and heads of weed-clad rocks, pools of sunlit water, and cliffs that are seen in bars of light and shade. Some of these are, it must be owned, a little painty.

Mr. C. P. Knight has a solid and impressive picture of evening over a sandy estuary and calm sea. It is called Where the Tor and Torridge meet the Sea; the undulating water reflects the bright sky, the darker vapours, and the opposite coast, where, through smoke and mist, are seen the houses of Appledore.—Mr. A. W. Hunt's Whitby Scar, a beautiful picture of faint rosy sunlight contending with advancing night, a wild coast, and wet tables of rock shining through shadows of the cliffs, is well known to his admirers.—The Trawlers of Mr. Naish needs no praise of ours.—The Sea Belle of Mr. F. Powell and other works of his are

priceless gems.

People whose taste is not fastidious may like the painty but popular contributions of Messrs. Horatio Hunter and Colin Maccullum. Fine - Art Society has been needlessly cruel in placing the works of these two gentlemen close to the sumptuous Venetian colouring and wholesome English sentiment of Mr. Hook, and hanging them between Mr. Brett's sunlit rocks and shining seas and the tender tones and grand masses of Mr. Alfred W. Hunt's Whitby Scar. It is also unfortunate for these gentlemen that their pictures are exactly opposite those of Mr. Henry Moore. This exhibition will be opened to the public on Monday next.

#### MR. F. MADOX BROWN'S FRESCOES.

WE have from time to time described the cartoons made by Mr. F. M. Brown for his pictures in the Central Hall of the Town Hall at Manchester; works which are the only attempts made in this country to emulate what was done in the Italian cities of the Middle Ages, and in modern days by Baron Leys at Antwerp. Not even the subjects of the great Florentine cycle are so entirely local as Brown's. The history of freedom in the Netherlands was the theme of Leys. Our countryman was wisely confined to depicting Manches-ter events, and, being so, was only a little less restricted than Pinturicchio when he painted in the library at Siena Cathedral the chief incidents in the career of Pius II.

We have often urged the desirability decorating in a noble style the walls of public schools and colleges, and we had hoped that something might be done, even at a small ex-pense, if students of the Academy were employed to reproduce in such places the heroic compositions of Flaxman from Æschylus and Homer, in the mode adopted by Mr. Watts when he decorated Little Holland House. Preferable even to these masterpieces would be illustrations of the lives of famous alumni, or pic-torial records of the history of the institutions themselves. At any rate, Leeds and Liverpool are rich enough to pay good painters at better rates than Mr. Brown has accepted for the works at Manchester.

The designs for the completed pictures need not again be described. But about the qualities of the paintings something may be said. Mr. Brown has executed in spirit fresco three pictures, the subjects of which are—1, 'The Romans building a Fort at Mancenion'; 2,

'The Baptism at York of King Edwin'; 3 The Expulsion of the Danes from Manchester The tints of the first picture—which are of a very high key, the key-note being deep redare clear, strong, and sharply defined, as winty air causes natural tints to be; and the painte has thus secured an intensely brilliant general effect for his work. The masses of these tints effect for his work. The masses of these this have been disposed with great skill and matery. At all times a firm and precise touch and masculine breadth of handling characterize the works of the artist; but these qualities were never seen to more advantage than in these works. Compared with the first fresco the colouring and lighting in the second work are softer and greyer, citron and golden olive prevailing. In it the arrangement of the more powerful tints, including the making of the richly coloured draperies on each side of the composition, is of extraordinary excellence; the tints are distinguished by rare vigour and admirably harmonized. Note worthy features of this painting are the sweet ness of the local colours of the ladies' dresse and the brightness, not to say splendour, of the sunlit street of York shown through the open window of the chapel. The carnations of the king's half-naked figure are wonderfully like the life; their luminosity is enhanced by the fineness and richness rather than by the depth of the local tints and the tones of the surround. ing draperies, which are quite bright enough, but are not in high keys of colour.

We have spoken already of the homeliness an intensely dramatic character of Mr. Brown designs, the wealth of incidental by-play which lies in them. Incidents are introduced that are not "monumental" according to the traditions of conventional art, but, being thoroughly genuine and expressive, suited to the subjects they illustrate, and full of animation and humour they give a strange force and charm to his

In the remaining two of the six panels confided to him, Mr. Brown does not intend to make a full-sized elaborate cartcon of each design Smaller drawings will suffice to test the compo tions and enable the painter to carry out his idea directly on the walls. For a less experienced artist it would be highly perilous to take such a step; but Mr. Brown's practical knowledge, his grasp of his subjects, and long previous studies should carry him safely where most would fail. The fourth picture, not cartoon, now in course of execution directly from the models and on the wall. The subject is the establishment of Flemish weavers in Manchester by Queen Philippa of Hainault in 1330. The story has, it seems, possessed the mind of the artist for at least thirty years; and this ensures for the fresco the advantages of long study and well-digested ideas. Mr. Brown has represented in early summer sunlight the winding suburban street of a country town having on both sides the open-fronted shops of Queen Philippa's countrymen whom she settled at Manchester. In the immediate foreground at elderly master-weaver and his apprentice work or pretend to work, at small mediæval looms, at the side of each of which are the size-pots and brushes used to stiffen the fabrics thus woven So much of modern trickery seems to have been in use in those days. The queen is in the in use in those days. middle distance; the old man is looking at her; the apprentice is improving the occasion making eyes at his master's beautiful daughte who stands at the door of the booth and care a kitten, whose position the lad envies mightily The queen is accompanied by maids of hono holding branches of may; these figures sug the time of year and illustrate Chaucer's verse Thanne longen folk to gon on pilgrimage

Her majesty is feeling the texture of a k piece of cloth of Lincoln green, a colour which what may be called the key-note of the chromatic scheme of the picture. A Fleming, his wife

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and their children, kneeling in a line, hold the cloth for Philippa's inspection. This striking element of the design is highly characteristic of the felicitous invention of its author, it is of great value in the composition, and it gives a peculiarly lifelike character to the work as a whole. Corresponding with this line of kneeling figures we see on the opposite side of the design a row of meeling children, including a little girl who is "making a face" at the Flemish maiden on our "making a face" at the Fielmish maiden on our right. Among the spectators is a little ragged boy, who has seized a vantage place on the market cross. Hounds in a leash and a cat serve to diversify the scene. In the extreme distance are three archers of the guard; one of them takes aim at a bird on a tree.

Our readers will remember that to Mr. J. F. Shields was confided a moiety of the series of twelve pictures intended for the hall. In order to meet the wishes of his colleague, who desired to point the subject which was fifth in the the allotted order of the decorative scheme, Mr. Brown undertook the seventh, passing, for the present at least, over the sixth. The seventh subject is 'The Astronomer,' William Crabtree watching the transit of Venus over the sun, thus confirming the observations of Horrocks at Preston, 1639. Crabtree was a draper at Broughton. It was he who first informed Jeremiah Regrecks, a young curate, of the errors then recently found of the old-fashioned astronomical books of their day; but for this information Horrocks would never have made those observaastronomy. Finding that the new books were confirmed by his own knowledge, Horrocks agreed with Crabtree that they should simultaneously watch for the transit of the confirmed that they should simultaneously watch for the transit of the confirmed that they should simultaneously watch for the transit of the confirmed that they should simultaneously watch for the transit of the confirmed that they should simultaneously watch for the transit of the confirmed that they are confirmed to the confirmed that they are confirmed to the c tions and calculations which cast new light on neously watch for the transit of the planet over the luminary's disc. Each employed the same mode of observation, and used a telescope thrust arough a darkened window to project the sun's rays on a paper diagram placed in the chamber of the observer. From 9 a.m. till 3.20 p.m. Cabtree watched in that dim apartment—this was till nearly sunset of a memorable day. At last a gleam of projected light revealed the little or of the planet in its passage over the illu-minated space of the diagram. The pathos of what followed is highly dramatic and effective. The Broughton linendraper's heart beat so riolently at that moment of projection, that le was unable to measure the progress of the phenomenon; he only saw it. This was, howsver, sufficient to confirm the notes made by Horrocks at Preston, and leave no doubt about the stupendous discovery they had made. These observers were so poor that, although they lived within thirty miles of each other, neither could afford to meet his correspondent. The curate died at the age of twenty-two; of the draper brown has represented Crabtree in a garret of his house. It is half a laboratory, half a store mom. Light of the sun reflected from the about Light of the sun reflected from the paper illuminates the chamber sufficiently to abow the observer, who has been seated on a three-legged stool and patiently reading Landsberg, but is now, with hands clasped tightly on his breast, intently watching the movement of the little dusky orb over the reflection of the shining disc. Mrs. Crabtree has been patiently witting in the half lightly the football. mitting in the half-light of the further side of the room; on her arm is a baby; with one hand the eagerly clutches a boy of four years old, thus reventing him from disturbing the astronomer. I trap in the floor of the room gives a view of

part of the shop below, with an apprentice at work. rork.

So far do Mr. Brown's present commissions of the six pictures detend. The subjects of the six pictures detend. The subjects of the six pictures detend. The subjects of the six pictures detend.

Lord to Mr. Shields are No. 5, 'John of sant, Duke of Lancaster, defending Wyclif before the Consistory Court at St. Paul's, London, 1377'; No. 6, 'The Establishment of lasts for Weights and Measures in Manchester, or Manches

ter against Lord Strange, by Bradshaw for the Parliament, 1642'; No. 9, 'Humphry Chetham's School, established for Forty Healthy Boys, 1650'; No. 10, 'The Muster of the Prehow the Cathedral Ground, 1745'; No. 11, 'John Kay saved from the Mob which assailed him for having invented the Fly-Shuttle, 1753' (Kay was saved in what is locally known as a woolsheet); No. 12, 'The Opening of the Bridgewater Canal, 1765.'

It is to be hoped that Mr. Brown may be induced to continue the series of pictures which he has, thus far, carried on with remarkable spirit and success. Should such hopes be ful-filled, Manchester will possess a series of pictures, homogeneous in design, character, quality, and mode of execution, the work of one of the ablest and best qualified painters of this time and country.

#### NOTES FROM NAPLES.

A mosaic of marvellous beauty has just been found on the track of the railway which leads from Reggio to Villa S. Giovanni. It is supposed to belong to Greek art, and its discovery has made a great sensation. The form of it is rectangular, and in the centre there is a biga on which stands a doubtful figure, nude, and ex-quisitely designed. The left hand of the figure holds the reins of the horses, whilst the right poises a trident as though in the act of striking. This beautiful mosaic belongs, it is thought, not only to Greek art, but to its best times. It is formed of small stones, or of a glassy paste, in two colours, white and black. The figure and the horses are of black stones, whilst the groundwork is of small white stones. Judging from its inclination, those on the spot are of opinion that it was originally the pavement of a terrace. Fortunately the Commendatore Salazaro, our well-known archæologist, was at Reggio at the time of the discovery, and he, together with the Commendatore Bolano, the local inspector, directed the works so as to preserve this pre-cious relic in its integrity. A skilled workman, too, has been sent from Pompeii to remove the mosaic from its present site to the museum of Reggio. As it was surmised that other remains of antiquity might exist in the neighbourhood, the excavations were continued and with great success. Another mosaic was discovered towards the east; it is in a better state of preservation than the first, and appears to have been completed with even greater excellence. Up to the present time only one angle of the mosaic has been laid open, showing that, like its neighbour, it is rectangular in form. Of the design nothing has been seen as yet, so that it is not known whether there are figures in the centre or not, but the cornice is of the finest

It is worth recording that Cav. Alfred Bourguignon has lately presented the Pinacotheca of San Martino with a beautiful painting by Paolo de Matteis, representing the Holy Family. The gift is all the more precious since the museum did not possess any picture by that master. H. W.

#### Sine-Art Cossip.

It appears that the Royal Academicians have not yet decided how to fill the post of Librarian to their society, which has been vacant for some months. Custom and the regulations require the office to be held by an R.A., but no R.A. seems to care about the post. There is a remote possibility of the election, on the 8th prox., of an Associate to be Academician and Librarian. Two other plans are suggested, 1, to elect a librarian from the Associates without promotion; 2, to elect an outsider. Mean time there is no Professor of Sculpture.

The first picture sale of the season in Messrs. Christie, Manson & Woods' rooms is appointed

or to-day (Saturday). The catalogue mentions three Ostades, a Van Dyck, three Tenierses, one Hogarth, a Govert Flinck, a Spagnoletto, one Piombo, and other works by Dow, Mieris, Rembrandt, Ruysdael, Claude, Metsu, besides the cartoon which Mr. S. A. Hart contributed to the Westminster Hall Exhibition of 1842, where it was No. 20, and represented King John, Constance, and Arthur. John, Constance, and Arthur.

THE private view of the Winter Exhibition of the Institute of Painters in Water Colours is appointed for Saturday next, the 3rd prox. The drawings will be shown to the public on the following Monday.

THE private view of the Exhibition of Cabinet Pictures in Oil at the Dudley Gallery is appoint ed for to-day (Saturday). The gallery will be opened to the public on Monday next.

THE private view of the Winter Exhibition of the Society of British Artists is appointed for to-day (Saturday). The gallery will be opened to the public on Monday next.

Mr. Wallis will contribute to the exhibition of the Society of Painters in Water Colours a series of coloured and monochromatic drawings illustrating 'The Merchant of Venice' in the illustrating 'The Merchant of Venice' in the true Venetian spirit. The first drawing shows the meeting of Antonio with Salarino and Salario, who sit on a marble bench on the quay and gossip with their friend; a gondola is waiting, a water-seller fills a glass for one of the rowers. Behind, a glimpse of a canal displays buildings and masts of galleys on either side. The graceful Italian actions and expressions are animated and characteristic; the broad shadows and spaces of suplicht are charming. hadows and spaces of sunlight are charming. The second design represents the embarkation of Antonio and Bassanio, Gratiano and Lorenzo taking leave on the quay. The conception of the groups is spirited, and the figure of the gondolier about to row is admirably true and skilfully poised. The third picture depicts Bassanio explaining his project to Antonio while they are seated under the canopy of the gondola; the rower stands behind and urges the boat over the smooth, semi-opaque green sea. The design is so true that we seem to hear the ripples as the craft speeds over them. Strong tones give powerful daylight. The fourth is the most brilliant picture of the series. It depicts Portia and Nerissa conversing at Belmont in a chamber which opens on apartments decorated with panels of mosaic. The gilding and painting on the walls are sumptuous, and the shining and richly-tinted marbles of the floor reflect the warmer and the cooler light. The whole is distinguished by luminosity and colour which is rich, brilliant, and soft. The draperies of the ladies and their gracious looks can hardly be admired too much. The fifth picture shows Jessica at her father's door with Lancelot, to whom she gives a ducat and a letter. She has a bright and sweet expression, and draws the letter from her bosom while standing with one hand on the lock. Her whimsical companion's louties figure and attitude are companion's loutish figure and attitude are full of humour. A touch of nature appears in the half-starved cat, who affectionately rubs her head against Lancelot's legs. As in the Belmont scene the architecture and its illumination are deliciously rich in tone and colour. The sixth picture depicts Shylock delivering the house key to Jessica with stringent charges, which are illustrated by Lancelot's derisive pantomime behind his master's back. The yellow hood and black gabardine of the old man, his daughter's piquant Levantine dress of white, purple, gold, and orange, and the crisp surface of the serving man's new garments are effective elements in a sparkling little picture. The subject of the last work is not found in the play, but it was derived from an incident which s referred to in Act III. sc. iv. Portia and Nerissa, disguised as doctor and clerk, are going to the trial; the effect is that of bright, early morning; they sit in a gondola rowed by two

men in blue jackets. The refined brilliancy and delicate, jewel-like "colour" of the coloured drawings, the complete spontaneity of the designs, the animation of the movements and expressions of the figures, the prevailing brightness of the lighting, are charms common to all these works.

THE annual general meeting of the Glasgow Archæological Society was held last week. The Council's report showed the membership and funds of the Society to be in a satisfactory condition, and the recommendations therein contained were unanimously adopted.

In the history of German art the opening of the new museum at Berlin will form a considerable event. The museum contains a vast number of art objects gathered from public collections in several parts of the city, and comprising majolica, ivory carvings, works in metal, and other treasures. In addition, many examples have been borrowed from foreign museums to illustrate the practice of design at various periods. Sir P. C. Owen represented Great Britain on this occasion. From South Kensington a large number of Indian objects have been lent. These attracted great admiration, not only on account of their splendour and value, but because they are comparative novelties at Berlin. Attached to this new museum is a large school of art, analogous to that at South Kensington, and intended for the training of masters, whose services will be required in the national schools, where it is expected drawing will be made a compulsory branch of education.

A Correspondent sends a warning : - " I think that you would do a charitable work to many poor artists by calling attention in the Atheneum to a cruel fraud which is being practised on them by one or more publishers of Christmas cards. My daughter received an invitation some time ago from one of these firms to supply a dozen original designs, for which a handsome price was offered. A batch of drawings was accordingly prepared and sent. Some time afterwards a note came to say that they were not suitable, but the drawings were not sent back. After many weeks' insistance on their return, they were sent in just such a state as might be expected from their having been in the hands of copyists for some weeks; and now they figure in the shop-windows with the initials of the firm. The designs are reversed, as they would be naturally in a printed copy, and a few very slight alterations have been made so as to avoid proof enough for prosecution.

This is of no consequence in my daughter's case, who only loses a little pocket-money; but of course the same fraud is practised on all likely subjects, and I know one instance of a very poor artist who seems to have been robbed in like manner for the benefit of the coming 'merry Christmas.

Two important foreign sales of pictures are announced by M. Paul Chevallier, of Paris, to whose hands has fallen that famous ivory hammer which was so long wielded by M. C. Pillet. M. Chevallier will sell at the Hôtel Drouot, on the 9th prox., thirty-three pictures and studies by the late M. G. Courbet. There is a peculiarity in the circumstances which have delayed the selling of these works, to which the author of the introduction to the catalogue alludes in an exquisite euphuism attributing the delay principally to the "timidité" of the public and the jealousies of rivals, to say nothing of "le contrecoup d'événements cruels." Let us, in his words, hope that the hour of justice has at last arrived for the so-called "master of Ornans," who overthrew the Vendôme Column. It is interesting to find in the market some of those pictures which at least partially justified the enthusiasm of Courbet's critics and friends. Conspicuous among these works is one which in the Salon 1851 made a great reputation for the artist. This is the original 'Enterrement à

Ornans,' one of the least sentimental and most pathetic of modern sorrowful designs. 
'L'Atelier de Courbet,' the painter seated before his landscape, a naked model behind his chair, and about him MM. Baudelaire, Champfleury, and others, is lot 8 in this auction. A study for the portrait of M. Hector Berlioz, powerful and somewhat heavily handled landscapes, sumptuously painted, demonstrative heads, the large paysage called 'La Sieste pendant la Saison des Foins,' cattle near a clump of trees, and the amazingly forceful 'Combat de Cerfs,' which took one's breath away at the Salon 1861, are now to be sold, with the humorous 'Retour de la Conférence,' curés and vicaires, designed in a Rabelaisian vein, going home after a jovial dinner. The other sale by M. Chevallier comprises ancient pictures which belonged to the late M. Tencé, of Lille, including the large 'Les Miracles de St. Benoit' (Smith, 161), painted by Rubens, c. 1631, for the Abbey of Afflighem. Pictures attributed to Van Balen, Berkheyden, Berchem ('Calisto revenant de la Chasse'), Both, Cuyp, G. Poussin, and Hobbema (the noteworthy 'Le Moulin'); a portrait of Northcote by Jackson; 'La Paix,' by Karel du Jardin; the 'Piquer et ses Chiens,' by J. Jordaens; examples by Jan Vander Meer; of Haarlem and Mireveldt, Moucheron (with Lingelbach), Neefs, P. Potter, Ommeganck, and Teniers ('Les Danseurs'); and a considerable number of rare catalogues of picture sales of the last and present centuries, are features of this auction.

M. ROUAM, of Paris, announces for publication on the 1st of December next 'Les Amateurs de l'Ancienne France: le Surintendant Foucquet, après des Documents inédits,' by M. E. Bonaffé: a work to be richly illustrated, and to be followed by 'Les Précurseurs de la Renaissance,' by M. E. Müntz. The latter author will act as editor to a series of publications similar to the above, of which they form parts.

A RESTORATION of the great Mosque at Jerusalem is said to be threatened.

An account of the receipts and expenses of the last Salon has been rendered to the committee of artists charged with the management of that exhibition. The net profit was 130,000 francs.

More room is demanded in the Louvre for the reception of works of art which have not yet been placed before the public.

An enormous panorama, the work of MM. De Neuville and Detaille, and representing the Battle of Champigny, will be opened next year in the Rue de Berry, Champs Elysées, Paris.

In order that their roofs may be repaired, it is intended to close for a considerable period, some say four months, the most important part of the picture galleries of the Louvre, being the Salon Carré, the whole of the Grand Gallery, and the Salles Clouet, Lesueur, and Vernet, and the Seconde Grande Salle Française. Likewise will be closed, but for a briefer time, the Première Grande Salle Française. The Salle Duchâtel will be occupied by pictures removed from the above-named galleries. Great complaints have already been excited by this rumour. It cannot be needful to close the whole of these apartments

#### MUSIC

#### THE WEEK.

CEYSTAL PALACE,—Berlioz's 'Épisode de la Vie d'un Artiste and 'Lélio.'

WE mentioned in these columns a fortnight since that the result of a plébiscite taken at the Crystal Palace by Mr. Manns on the question of repeating the two great works by Berlioz, produced there last month, showed an overwhelming majority in favour of a second hearing. In compliance with

the expressed wish of the audience, both the 'Symphonie Fantastique' and its sequel, 'Lélio; ou, le Retour à la Vie,' were given last Saturday. The former of these pieces is, to a great extent, complete in itself, and may, therefore, be heard to advantage without its continuation; but 'Lélio,' on the on the other hand, gains immensely in effect by being played immediately after the symphony. A fresh hearing of both works brings out into clearer relief many points which at first seemed somewhat obscure. This was more especially the case on Saturday, because the performance was immeasurably superior to that previously given by Mr. Manns. Increased familiarity with the excessively difficult and complex music gave the band not only certainty, but confidence. Every point was brought out with the utmost distinctness; and it is no more than the truth to say that, whether for fire, finish, or delicacy, we do not remember, in more than twenty years' experience of attendance at concerts, a more magnificent performance than that under notice. The weak points adverted to by us in our criticism of the first rendering of the 'Symphonie Fantastique' had all been remedied; the proper number of bassoons and harps were present; and two excellent bells added great effect to the finale of the symphony. The soloists in the 'Lélio' were the same as last month, Messrs. E. Lloyd and F. King; Mr. Henry Forrester again recited the curious "monodrama"; and the Crystal Palace choir in the choruses of the work sang, perhaps, better than we ever remember to have heard them. The enthusiastic applause with which Mr. Manns was greeted at the close of the concert has never been more fairly earned by him; he may, indeed, feel proud of one of the most signal artistic successes of his career as a conductor.

We have already noticed both works so fully on previous occasions that it only remains to add a few words as to the general impressions made by a rehearing. In the case of the 'Symphonic Fantastique' there can be no doubt that we have here a masterpiece. It is the work of a genius—wild and erratic, if you will, but a genius, in the sense of a composer of individual inventive power. Apart altogether from the wonderful mastery of orchestral colour shown throughout, the ideas in themselves are full of originality. Those portions (such as the "Marche au Supplies" and the "Ronde du Sabbat") which are from their eccentricity the least attractive at first, grow upon the hearer with closer acquaintance. Opinions will doubtless differ as to the advisability of selecting Opinions will doubtless such subjects for musical treatment; but, looking at the music from the composer's standpoint, it is impossible to deny its power. True (as Schumann remarked of the work), "all goes head over heels," yet there is a method in the madness, though it is so different from ordinary methods as to require familiarity for its appreciation. Of the 'Lélio' as a whole we must speak with more qualified praise. While admitting the great beauty of certain portions, especially of the charming Fantasia on Shakspeare's 'Tempest' which forms the final, we cannot but feel that the work suffer from a lack of artistic coherence. There is

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ing speakale, little dramatic continuity in the recitation; and the mixture of the imaginary with the real (as, for instance, where Lélio is supposed to be listening to the sound of his own voice, while the tenor sings the "Chant de Bonheur") is so forced and unnatural as to produce an unsatisfactory effect. 'Lélio' is the artistic mistake of a great man; but it is a mistake, and in spite of its many detached beauties it will never rank with the 'Symphonie Fantastique,' the 'Harold,' or the 'Romeo and Juliet.'

THE KENSINGTON CONCERTS.

33, Kensington Square, Nov. 22, 1881.

FINDING that several misconceptions prevail in regard to our winter series of Kensington Popular Concerts, I venture to address a few lines of explanation on the subject to your musical readers, in the hope that they may be of sufficient interest to find a place in your columns.

1. Some persons, apparently, suppose that we are not giving the same advantages to the poorer classes that we gave last season. This is quite contrary to the actual facts. In the original scheme we provided 720 cheap tickets; in our amended scheme we provide 750 (i.e., 450 at twopence and 390 at sixpence).

2 Others, apparently, fear that the cheap tickets will get into wrong hands, and be used by a class of people for whom they were never intended. These objectors are, doubtless, unware that all the twopenny tickets are privately sold to the class for whose special behoof they are issued by members of our sub-committee, ladies and gentlemen who are actual workers and risitors amongst the poor.

3. A third set of objectors declare that in organizing such cheap concerts we are degrading and injuring "the profession." The facts are briefly these: We last year paid all our young artists a fee rather higher in most cases than that they were accustomed to elsewhere; and this year we are paying all our artists. So far am I from desiring to take any undue advantage of thewell-known kindness of the musical profession, that one of my ulterior, if not one of the chief, objects in starting the concerts was to secure for young artists a favourable opportunity of making their public début; and how greatly such an opportunity is needed and appreciated is evinced by the hundreds of letters I have received, begging only for an appearance.

Hardly a day passes without the repetition of objections and misrepresentations under one of these three heads; and I therefore ask you to allow me this public opportunity of answering my numerous objectors, and converting them, if possible, into allies. I may conclude by saying that at our second concert, last Tuesday, the hall was crowded and the music thoroughly appreciated. There seems to be every prospect this season of making the scheme a financial success, or, at least, of securing ourselves from absolute

A few of the twelve-shilling season tickets still remain unsold, and can be had by any who desire to further our enterprise.

RIDLEY PRENTICE.

### Musical Cossip.

The directors of the German opera performances at Drury Lane next year, Messrs. H. Franke and B. Pollini, have forwarded us a revised prospectus of the arrangements for their season. The dates of the twelve performances will be May 18th, 23rd, 25th, and 30th; and June 1st, 6th, 8th, 13th, 15th, 20th, 22nd, and 27th. The artists already engaged are Frau Sucher, Fräulein Malten, Fräulein Wiedermann, Herren Winkelmann, Wolff, and Gura, and Dr. Kraus. The operas to

be given are Wagner's 'Fliegende Holläuder,' 'Tannhäuser,' 'Lohengrin,' 'Tristan und Isolde,' and 'Meistersinger,' Beethoven's 'Fidelio,' Weber's 'Euryanthe,' and Mozart's 'Così fan Tutte.' The choice of the last opera is rather curious, because, though full of charming music, it is not one of its composer's strongest works; and it is, moreover, an Italian and not a German opera. One would have rather expected one of Mozart's genuine German operas—for instance, the 'Entführung aus dem Serail' or 'Die Zauberflöte.'

The principal novelties to be produced at the Birmingham festival next year will be M. Gound's oratorio 'The Redemption,' for which the large sum of 4,000l. will be paid; Sir Julius Benedict's 'Graziella,' which the composer could not finish in time for the recent Norwich festival; a cantata by Niels Gade, entitled 'Psyche'; and another, 'The Holy City,' by Mr. A. R. Gaul. The programme will therefore be more interesting than that of the last festival, in 1879. It is stated that overtures were also made to Mr. Arthur Sullivan and Mr. Joseph Barnby for new works, but without success.

Ar last Saturday's Popular Concert Herr Volkmann's Quartet in a minor, Op. 14, was repeated. This work was noticed on its first performance in March last (Athen., No. 2787). The programme also included Mendelssohn's Sonata in D, Op. 58, for piano and violoncello, Schumann's 'Kreisleriana,' and Molique's Saltarella in A for violin. Herr Straus was the leader, Mdlle. Janotha the pianist, and Mr. Santley the vocalist. On Monday Mdlle. Janotha was prevented by indisposition from appearing, and Miss Agnes Zimmermann took her place, choosing as her solo Mendelssohn's Caprice in A minor, Op. 33, No. 1. The concerted works were Beethoven's Quartet in E flat, Op. 74, Mendelssohn's posthumous Fragments of a Quartet, and Schumann's Trio in D minor, Op. 63. The lastnamed work, one of Schumann's most vigorous and individual conceptions, received an especially fine interpretation at the hands of Miss Zimmermann, Herr Straus, and Signor Piatti. The vocalist, Miss Carlotta Elliot, pleased greatly, and her name should appear more frequently in our concert programmes. She has a bright, fresh, and admirably trained soprano voice, and her rendering of songs by Handel, Schumann, and Eckert was not the least enjoyable feature of the concert.

The programme of Mr. Dannreuther's second Musical Evening, on Thursday week, contained Grieg's Quartet in 6 minor, Op. 27, a work interesting as regards the subject-matter, in which Scandinavian influence is strongly predominant, but unsatisfactory in structure and development; Brahms's Pianoforte Quartet in 6 minor, Op. 25; and Beethoven's Thirty-three Variations on a Waltz by Diabelli, Op. 120. The instrumental executants were Mr. Dannreuther, Mr. Henry Holmes, Mr. A. Gibson, Herr Carl Jung, and M. Lasserre. Miss Anna Williams was again the vocalist.

Messes. A. Reed and Corney Grain, having completed their fifth year of joint management, have renewed their tenancy of St. George's Hall for a term of years. During the autumn recess the stage has been rebuilt and lowered, a green-room built for the artists, and the general arrangements, both before and behind the scenes, materially improved.

An exceedingly fine performance of 'Elijah' was given by the Albert Hall Choral Society on Wednesday evening. The choruses were uniformly well rendered, the precision and body of tone exhibited in the larger numbers and the delicacy shown in such pieces as "Blessed are the men" and "He watching over Israel" being equally noticeable. The solos of course received the fullest justice at the hands of such artists as Madame Marie Roze, Miss Damian, Madame

Patey, Mr. Edward Lloyd, and Mr. Santley. The hall was full in every part.

Mr. Geaussent's choir, numbering 200 voices, will give their first concert at St. James's Hall next Thursday evening. From the programme of the music the choir appears designed to follow in the steps of Mr. Henry Leslie's celebrated body of singers.

It appears that the actual monetary result of the recent Norwich festival is a balance of 840*l*, after paying all expenses. At a meeting of the General Committee last Saturday it was decided to distribute 600*l*, among the local charities, and to hold over the remaining sum "to enable the committee to keep the chorus together, and provide for more frequent practices prior to the next festival." The latter part of this resolution will meet with the approval of all musicians.

AT Mr. Charles Halle's fourth concert at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, the 'Creation' was performed, the solos being given by Madame Albani, Mr. Edward Lloyd, and Signor Foli.

The programme of the sixth orchestral concert at the Brighton Aquarium last Saturday included Beethoven's 'Pastoral' Symphony, Max Bruch's Violin Concerto in a, played by Signor Papini, the Overture to 'Ruy Blas,' and the ballet music from Gounod's 'Polyeucte.' Mr. F. Corder conducted.

The Rochester, Strood, and Chatham Choral Society has issued its prospectus for the coming season. Three concerts will be given; at the first Dr. Bridge's 'Boadicea' and a miscellaneous selection will be performed; the second will be an orchestral and ballad concert—an unusual combination; and at the third Mozart's 'Requiem' and a selection from 'Samson' will be given. The Rev. W. H. Nutter will conduct and Mr. Rosenthal will lead the orchestra.

M. Pasdeloup had a misfortune at his Concert Populaire last Sunday. Berlioz's 'Damnation de Faust' was announced; but a few minutes before the commencement of the performance M. Pasdeloup received a message from M. Lhérie, one of his principal soloists, that he had entirely lost his voice. As it was equally impossible to replace the artist at a few minutes' notice and to perform the work without him, the concert had to be postponed.

The Royal Academy students' concert on Saturday last showed the working of the institution in a favourable light. Not that any of the pupils exhibited ability of an exceptional kind, but the average of merit was higher than usual. Only one new composition was introduced, namely, an expressive song for tenor, "The full moon is beaming," by Miss Dinah Shapley. From a strictly musical point of view the most interesting items of the programme were Purcell's fine anthem "O sing unto the Lord" and Moscheles's 'Les Contrastes, 'a highly effective work for four performers on two pianofortes. The Christmas orchestral concert will take place on December 15th, at St. James's Hall.

M. Ernest Reyer's opera 'La Statue' has been performed with great success at the Théâtre de la Monnaie, Brussels.

### DRAMA

#### Bramatic Cossip.

Mr. Irving's visit to the North has resembled rather a royal progress, such as is recorded in Nichols, than an ordinary theatrical tour. Such a reception as has been awarded the actor in Edinburgh affords striking proof how keen an interest in the drama has sprung up during lite years. The address delivered by Mr. Irving before the Edinburgh Philosophical Society is

the most valuable and thoughtful utterance upon the subject of his art Mr. Irving has yet afforded.

Mr. Sims's comedy 'The Member for Slocum' was given at the Gaiety morning performance on Wednesday last. Next Wednesday 'A Thread of Silk,' by Mr. Arthur Matthison, will be revived. The piece last named is deficient in action, but is fairly sympathetic and amusing. Its performance, by actors belonging for the most part to the younger school, was satisfactory. The satire with which 'A Thread of Silk' is charged is mainly directed against strong-minded women, the more pronounced of whom are represented as an importation from America.

An increasing readiness on the part of managers to accept the verdict of press and public may be regarded as a proof of augmenting intel-ligence. The two latest novelties in the shape of plays produced as portions of regular enter-tainment have been withdrawn with a celerity to which we are no longer accustomed. After seven which we are no longer accustomed. After seven performances Mr. Grundy's comedy of 'Dust' has been withdrawn from the Royalty. At the Court meanwhile Mr. Boucicault's drama of 'Mimi' has made way for a revival of 'Honour,' the piece it succeeded. Mr. Gilbert's comedy of 'Engaged,' with Mr. Byron in the rôle created by Mr. George Honey, will be the next novelty at the theatre last named.

PRIVATE attempts to supply an academy of acting or to afford instruction in the drama are coming into fashion. Mr. Poel recently started a series of classes for the study of Shakspeare, and Mr. Markby now puts forth a scheme for an academy, with an executive committee and a longish list of patrons. The committee includes, among others, the names of Mr. Hamilton Aïdé, Mr. Wilkie Collins, Mr. Dubourg, Mr. Sala, and the Hon. Lewis Wing-

STATED in the fewest words, the leading incidents of M. Sardou's four-act comedy of 'Odette,' produced at the Vaudeville, are as follows:—After dragging through the gutter during fifteen years the name she persists in bearing of the husband she has wronged, Madame de Clermont-Latour finds that her evil Madame de Clermont-Latour finds that her evil reputation imperils the marriage of her daughter. After an interview with the girl, whose happiness she finds is at stake, the mother commits suicide as the only means of removing the obstacle her infamy has erected. The chief burden of the acting fell on M. Dupuis as the injured husband, Malle. Pierson as Odette, and Madame Legault as Bérangère. Malle. Réjane and MM. Berton, Parade, and Dieudonné are also included in the cast.

Molle. Tessandier has made at the Odéon brilliantly successful début as Camille in · Horace.

'LA SAN FELICE,' a drama in five acts and seven tableaux, adapted from the well-known romance of Alexandre Dumas by M. Maurice Drack, has met with very moderate success at the Théâtre du Château d'Eau. M. Péricaud was Ferdinand IV.; M. Hodin, L'Amiral Nelson; and Madame Chambly, Lady Hamilton.

An old-fashioned melo-drama in five acts, by M. W. Busnach, has been successfully produced at the Ambigu Comique under the title of 'Le Petit Jacques.

Among revivals in Paris may be mentioned 'Madame Grégoire,' a three-act vaudeville of MM. Burani and Ordonneau, at the Comédie Parisienne, and 'Le Secret de Miss Aurore' of M. Lambert Thiboust at the Théâtre de Belleville. In the second act of the piece last named a round, entitled "Toby; ou, Les Aventures d'un Jokey Récalcitrant," is introduced, probably by way of supplying local colour.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications,

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